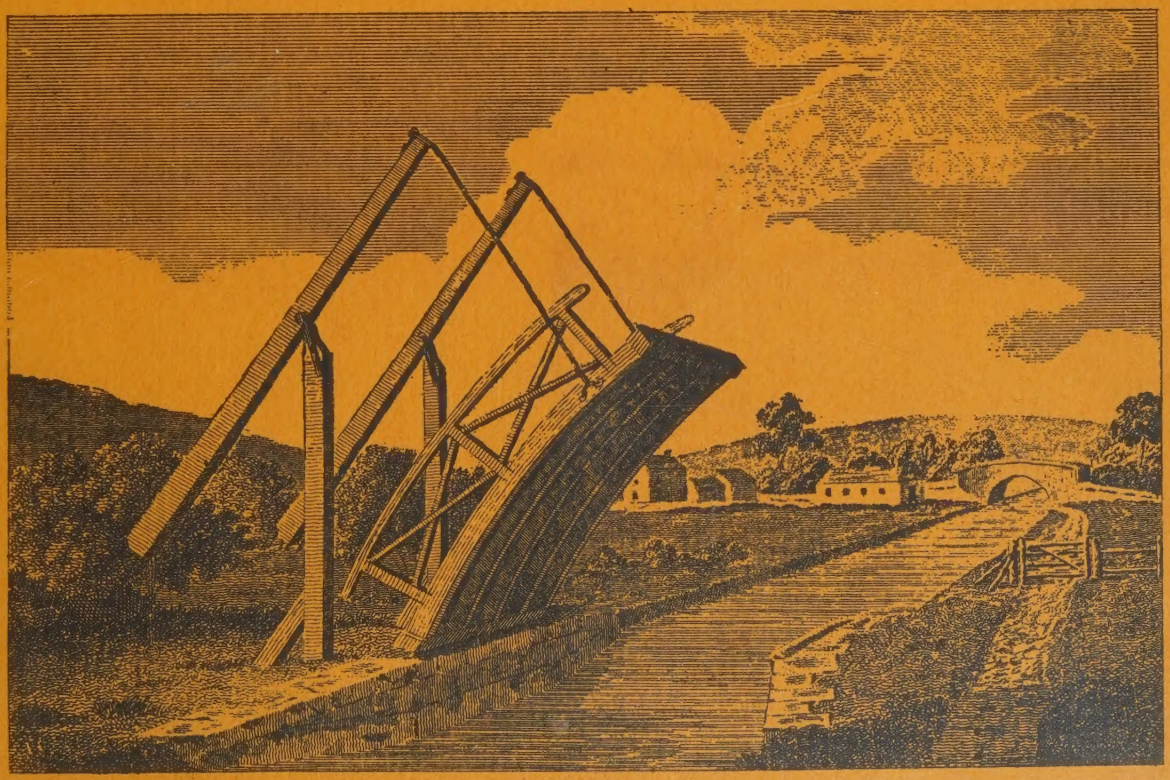
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J. AIKIN



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FROM 30 TO 40 MILES ROUND

MANCHESTER

A

DESCRIPTION

OF THE

COUNTRY

FROM

THIRTY TO FORTY MILES ROUND

MANCHESTER

BY

JOHN AIKEN

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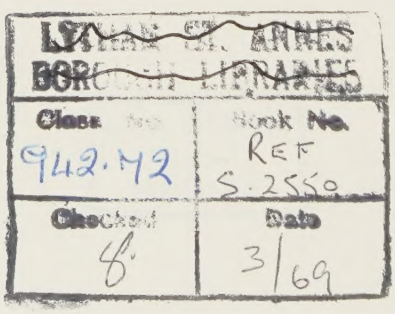
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Publish'd June 4. 1793. by I. Stockdale Piccadilly

A

DESCRIPTION

of

THE COUNTRY

from thirty to forty Miles round

MANCHESTER.

The Materials arranged, & the Work composed,

By J. AIKIN, M.D.



Stothard del.[t] *Sandoni sculp.*[t]

Embellished with seventy-three Plates.

LONDON.

Printed for John Stockdale, Piccadilly,

June 4. 1795.

A

DESCRIPTION

OF THE

COUNTRY

FROM

THIRTY TO FORTY MILES ROUND

MANCHESTER;

CONTAINING

ITS GEOGRAPHY, NATURAL AND CIVIL; PRINCIPAL PRODUCTIONS; RIVER AND CANAL NAVIGATIONS; A PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF ITS TOWNS AND CHIEF VILLAGES; THEIR HISTORY, POPULATION, COMMERCE, AND MANUFACTURES; BUILDINGS, GOVERNMENT, &c.

THE MATERIALS ARRANGED, AND THE WORK COMPOSED

By J. AIKIN, M. D.

EMBELLISHED AND ILLUSTRATED WITH SEVENTY-THREE PLATES.

The echoing hills repeat
The ſtroke of ax and hammer; ſcaffolds riſe,
And growing edifices; heaps of ſtone
Beneath the chiſſel beauteous ſhapes aſſume
Of frize and column. Some with even line
New ſtreets are marking in the neighb'ring fields,
And ſacred domes of worſhip. *Dyer's Fleece.*

London:

PRINTED FOR JOHN STOCKDALE.

PREFATORY ADVERTISEMENT.

TO his laborious undertaking, now completed, the Publiſher begs leave to prefix ſome explanations and acknowledgements, which concern himſelf and his ſubſcribers, as well as the perſons to whom he has been obliged for aſſiſtance.

His original idea was merely to give an account of the town of Mottram in Longdendale, and the ſingular country around it, with which he has much perſonal acquaintance, and where he enjoys a circle of valuable friends. At the urgent ſolicitation of ſome Lancaſhire gentlemen, he was induced to enlarge his plan, and to make Manchester the centre of a deſcriptive work, the circumference of which gradually extended itſelf further and further. With, perhaps, too little reflection, he ſuffered himſelf to be engaged in a deſign of a magnitude and importance that involved him in toil and expence, the idea of which,

had

had he foreſeen their extent, would probably have deterred him from the proſecution of it. And notwithſtanding he was ſo fortunate as to obtain the co-operation of a gentleman of acknowledged abilities for ſuch a work, and with whoſe exertions he doubts not that the public will be as well ſatisfied as he himſelf is, yet the difficulties and diſappointments he has met with in the progreſs of the buſineſs, particularly in collecting the neceſſary materials, have frequently brought him to the verge of repenting his temerity. But the taſk is now finiſhed; and he flatters himſelf he ſhall not be miſtaken in the expectations he forms of its being thought worthy of the public ſupport.

As he has received no ſubſcriptions in advance, and as original ſubſcribers have been left perfectly at liberty to withdraw their names if they ſhould think proper, he conceives no blame can attach to him for having raiſed the price, in proportion as the value of the work itſelf roſe in fair eſtimation, from the additional decorations and advantages beſtowed upon it. He is confident that its cheapneſs at the preſent price will be apparent to all who are capable of forming a juſt compariſon between it and other works

works of a ſimilar kind, and of eſtimating the coſt of the paper, print, and plates.

In deference to the opinion of ſome of his beſt friends, though conſiderably againſt his own inclination, he was induced to throw out a propoſal for gentlemen reſiding within the limits of the plan to contribute plates repreſenting views of their own houſes, or ſuch other objects as they might fix upon—a circumſtance by no means unuſual in topographical works. Leſt it ſhould be thought that the Publiſher lies under obligations which he has not incurred, or that the numerous views he has given were intended to be gratuitouſly preſented to the public, it is incumbent upon him to ſay, that all the acknowledgements he has to make on this head are for *two plates alone*, a part of the expence of which has been handſomely repaid him, one by a peer, the other by a commoner.

An account of the principal ancient families within the diſtrict deſcribed, was an original part of the deſign; but it was ſoon found that the compaſs of the work would not admit ſuch notices, however abbreviated, without excluding circumſtances more univerſally intereſting, relative

to

to the *preſent ſtate* of ſo very commercial a tract; whence that part of the plan was neceſſarily relinquiſhed.

After the work was fully planned, a great number of papers were circulated, containing heads of inquiry, which it was hoped gentlemen in their ſeveral towns and pariſhes would take the pains to anſwer. But though many expectations of this kind were given, in few inſtances comparatively were they fulfilled; which the Publiſher can only attribute to the more important engagements which the arduous circumſtances of the times occaſioned. He has, however, his warm thanks to return to many for their valuable communications; and ſhould have to more, by name, had they not choſen to remain concealed.

Among thoſe to whom he may venture publicly to mention his obligations, are

Joſeph Pickford, Eſq. of Royton-hall, who has not only contributed much information from his own knowledge, but with great liberality permitted him to make uſe of the manuſcript collections of the late Thomas Percival, Eſq.

and

and preſented him with the plans of Bucton Caſtle, Caſtle Shaw, Caſtle Croft, and Caſtle Steads.

Thomas Pennant, Eſq. of Downing, ſo well known by his valuable writings, who beſides allowing the moſt copious tranſcriptions from his printed works, favoured the Publiſher with a manuſcript tour acroſs the county of Lancaſter, from which much uſeful matter has been derived, particularly relative to the hundreds of Leyland and Blackburn.

Mr. Joſeph Booth of Mancheſter, for his readineſs in anſwering various queries, and his many kind offices in promoting the ſucceſs of the work.

Dr. Percival of the ſame place, for the communication of various papers, as well as for many judicious hints and remarks towards the execution of the deſign.

It is proper alſo to acknowledge, that a great part of the hiſtory of the trade and manufactures of Mancheſter has been taken from the printed account of the ſame by *Mr. James Ogden*, improved by his written communications; and that this intelligent perſon has been employed by

by the Publiſher in the collection of materials reſpecting ſeveral of the manufacturing towns in the north-eaſtern part of Lancaſhire.

Thomas Butterworth Bayley, *Eſq.* of Hope; *John Legh*, *Eſq.* of Bedford-ſquare, London; *John Entwiſtle*, *Eſq.* of Foxholes; *Nicholas Aſhton*, *Eſq.* of Woolton-hall; *Thomas Walker*, *Eſq.* of Mancheſter; *Mr. Archdeacon Travis*; the *Rev. Mr. Lyon*, of Preſtwich; have afforded various aſſiſtance and encouragement to the work.

The account of Leeds has been principally drawn up from the communications of the *Rev. Mr. Wood*; and that of Sheffield from thoſe of the *Rev. Mr. Naylor*.

Some other acknowledgements by name are made under the articles to which they belong. Among the favours which muſt remain anonymous, the Publiſher cannot but diſtinguiſh thoſe of the writers concerning the tenures and charters of Liverpool, and the improvements of Chat and Trafford Moſſes, and the Staffordſhire Potteries, as peculiarly entitled to his grateful remembrance.

On

On the whole, the Publiſher is ſatisfied that he may offer this work, whatever be its defects and inequalities, as containing a fund of new and authentic information, drawn either from perſonal obſervation or from the beſt and moſt reſpectable ſources, relative to ſome of the moſt intereſting objects this kingdom affords; and thus, with thanks to his friends and ſubſcribers, he diſmiſſes it with honeſt hopes of the public approbation and encouragement.

JOHN STOCKDALE.

June 4, 1795.

Explanation of the Frontiſpiece and Vignette.

THE group of females in the frontiſpiece repreſents *Agriculture*, *Induſtry*, *Plenty* and *Commerce*, allegorical perſonages peculiarly connected with the diſtrict which forms the ſubject of the work. The Ship in the back-ground alludes to the port of Liverpool. The Cupids ſporting above, expreſs the joy and ſatisfaction reſulting from ſuch an aſſociation.

The Vignette in the title page, exhibiting an arch thrown acroſs an arm of the ſea, under which a fleet of merchant ſhips is paſſing in full ſail, while a veſſel nearly as large ſails over the aqueduct above, is a kind of viſionary anticipation of the future wonders of canal-navigation, probably not a greater advance from its preſent ſtate, than the aqueduct at Barton-bridge was, from that in which it was found by Brindley.

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* The value and utility of this map, as well for the direction of the reader, as for gentlemen travelling that country, is ſelf-evident.

† The approbation which the plan of Mancheſter and Salford by Mr. Laurent has met with, induced the publiſher to purchaſe the plates, for the benefit of thoſe of his ſubſcribers who are not already in poſſeſſion of that performance. It was very extraordinary that a foreigner, without knowledge of the language, or previous acquaintance with the country, ſhould be able, *by his eye alone*, without the aſſiſtance of any inſtrument (as was verified by the public teſtimony of the ſurveyors and architects of Mancheſter) during the moſt rigorous ſeaſon of the year, to ſurvey, in leſs than two months, two towns of ſome miles in circumference, with all their intricate communications.

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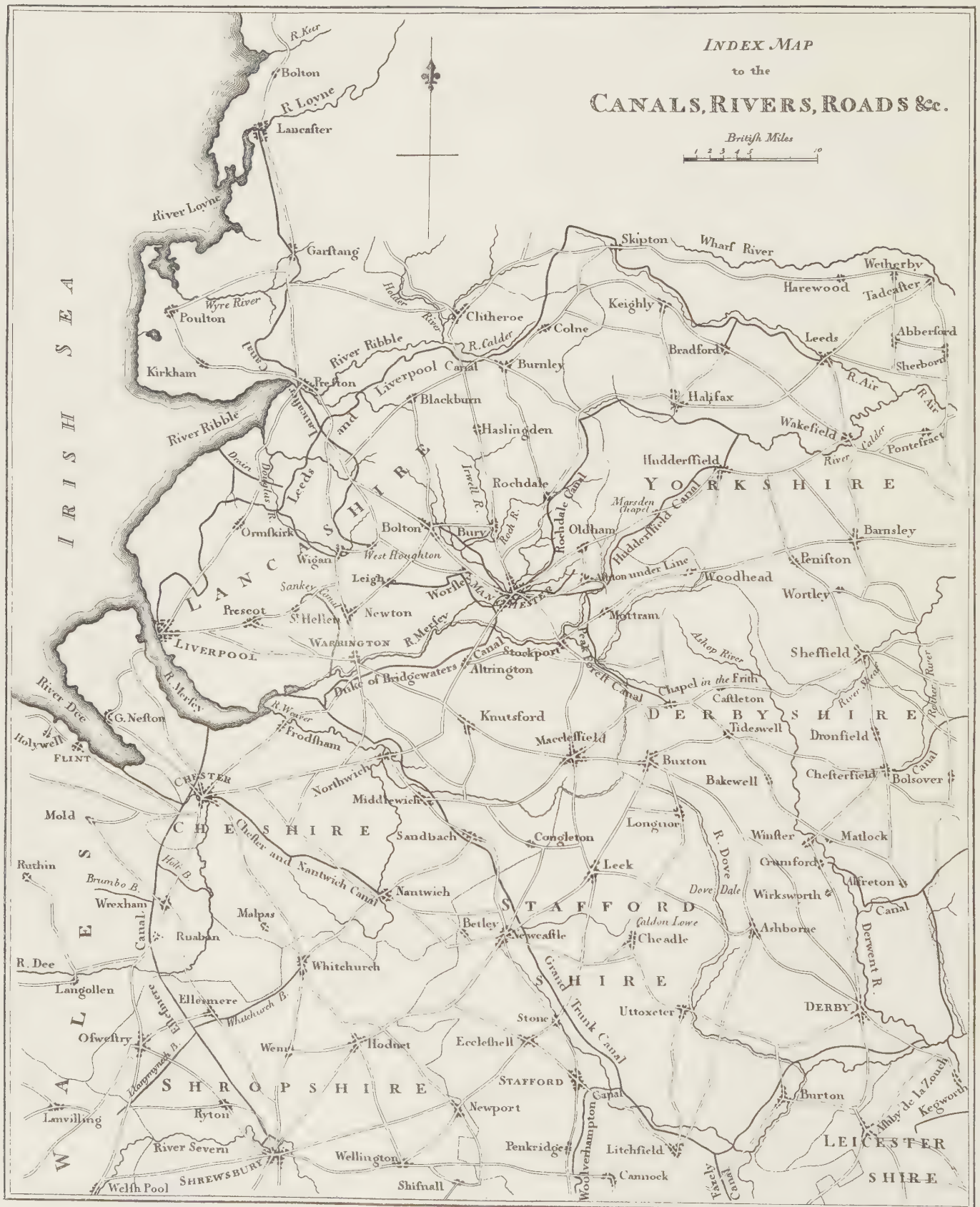
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INTRO-



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INTRODUCTION.

THE circle of country which it is the object of the preſent work to deſcribe, forms a conſiderable part of the north-weſtern quarter of England. Juſt approaching the Iriſh ſea to the weſt, it ſtretches on the eaſt acroſs the ridge of hills which perpendicularly divides the north of England into two portions, and projects ſome way into the plain beyond; and extending northwards to the edge of thoſe hilly and barren parts which compoſe a great ſhare of the northern extremity of the kingdom, it encroaches ſouthwards on the limits of the midland counties.

On taking our central ſtation at Mancheſter, a grand ſcenery of ſtrongly contraſted ranges of land preſents itſelf. Weſtward, a long level plain, broken by a few ſcattered

ſcattered eminences, partitioned, for the moſt part, into green and woody incloſures, yet ſprinkled with large patches of bare and brown moraſs, affords to the eye an interminable proſpect, expanding from ſide to ſide, and embracing almoſt the whole county of Cheſter, and the broadeſt and beſt cultivated portion of that of Lancaſter. Northward, the view is ſoon bounded by a mountainous ridge of moderate elevation, beyond which lies another tract of vale, which is at length loſt amidſt hills and moors. Southward, a rich and varied country extends for many miles, bounded in the diſtant horizon by lofty hills in Staffordſhire and Cheſhire. The country to the eaſt is compoſed of a vaſt tract of that chain of mountains which, deſcending from Scotland, runs like a back-bone through all the north of England, till it terminates in the Peak of Derbyſhire and the moorlands of Staffordſhire, both within the limits of our circle. This rugged region, ſtretching many miles from eaſt to weſt, includes a confuſed aſſemblage of high barren moors, lofty eminences, and interjacent vales, each watered and fertilized by its winding ſtream. Its eaſtern edge declines ſuddenly in the beautiful and highly-cultured plain of Yorkſhire and Derbyſhire.

Such

Such is the general face and ſituation of the extenſive tract over which we are about to travel;—conſiderably intereſting merely as a portion of the ſurface of our iſland, and as poſſeſſing a great variety of natural and artificial products of the earth. But it is principally as a manufacturing diſtrict that it merits the diſtinction of being made the ſubject of a particular ſurvey; and in this reſpect it may confidently challenge any other tract of equal extent within the limits of Great Britain (the vicinity of the metropolis, perhaps, excepted) to exhibit the ſame number of objects of national importance.

The centre we have choſen is that of the *cotton manufacture*; a branch of commerce, the rapid and prodigious increaſe of which is, perhaps, abſolutely unparalleled in the annals of trading nations. Mancheſter is, as it were, the heart of this vaſt ſyſtem, the circulating branches of which ſpread all around it, though to different diſtances. To the north-weſtern and weſtern points it is moſt widely diffuſed, having in thoſe parts eſtabliſhed various head-quarters, which are each the centres to their leſſer circles. Bolton, Blackburn, Wigan, and ſeveral other Lancaſhire towns, are ſtations of this kind; and the whole intervening

vening country takes it character from its relation to them. Stockport to the ſouth, and Aſhton to the eaſt, of Manchester, are ſimilar appendages to this trade; and its influence is ſpread, more or leſs, over the greateſt part of Lancaſhire, and the north-eaſtern portion of Cheſhire. Under the general head of the cotton manufacture may be comprized a variety of fabrics not ſtrictly belonging to it, but accompanying it, and in like manner centering in Manchester and its vicinity.

To the north-eaſt and eaſt the cotton trade is ſoon entrenched upon by the *woollen manufacture*, an object, likewiſe, of vaſt importance, which extends through great part of the Weſt Riding of Yorkſhire, and fills its moſt bleak and ſterile tracts with population and opulence. This has not any one common centre, but the towns of Leeds, Halifax, Bradford, Wakefield, Huddersfield, Saddleworth, and Rochdale, are each centres of particular branches and varieties of the woollen manufacture. This trade, though of older ſtanding and ſlower advance than the cotton trade, and likewiſe rivalled in other parts of the kingdom, has, nevertheleſs, experienced a very rapid increaſe in late years. It would ſeem as if a hilly country

try was peculiarly adapted to it, ſince it almoſt ceaſes where Yorkſhire deſcends into the plain.

Southward of the limits of the clothing trade, our circle comprehends the town of Sheffield, ſo famous for its *cutlery* and *hardware*. Paſſing into Derbyſhire it includes all the *mining* and *mineral* country of the Peak, and extends to the commercial town of Cheſterfield. Staffordſhire, beſides other branches of manufacture, affords a moſt curious and valuable one, the *pottery*, which may be ſaid, as a national object, to be the creation of a few years paſt, produced by a fortunate combination of chymical ſkill with taſte in the fine arts. This county alſo participates with Cheſhire in the *ſpinning and winding of ſilk*, which is carried on to a moderate extent in ſeveral places. Cheſhire poſſeſſes another article of great importance to the national revenues,—the *ſalt*, which is obtained in inexhauſtible abundance from its rock-pits and ſprings.

Though the cotton-trade peculiarly characteriſes Lancaſhire as a commercial county, yet it has other conſiderable branches of manufacture; as that of *ſail-cloth* and

coarſe

coarſe linens, of *nails*, of *watch tools and movements*, of *caſt-plate* and *common glaſs*. Its great port of Liverpool, the ſecond for extent of buſineſs in the kingdom, and that which has received the moſt rapid increaſe, is alſo within our limits; as is, likewiſe, the ancient port of Cheſter.

This general ſurvey of our ground, will, it is preſumed, amply juſtify the choice of Mancheſter as a grand centre from whence to take a tour, moſt peculiarly intereſting to thoſe who wiſh for information reſpecting the commerce and manufactures of this iſland. It now remains to give ſome account of the method propoſed to be followed in arranging the materials of the enſuing work.

We begin with breaking this large ſpace into its geographical diviſions. As the greater part of *Lancaſhire*, and a ſtill larger proportion of *Cheſhire*, are comprehended within our bounds, it has been thought proper to give an entire general deſcription of theſe two counties. Their limits, diviſions, face of country, ſoil, climate, courſe of rivers, agriculture, and productions, are treated of in a ſummary way, and every circumſtance of importance by which they are characteriſed is noted. Though a much ſmaller

ſmaller portion of *Derbyſhire* belongs to our plan, yet, as the whole county is not very extenſive, and as the two hundreds with which we are concerned are by much the moſt remarkable for their appearance and products, we have alſo extended our general deſcription through the whole of it. *Yorkſhire* being geographically divided into Three Ridings, of which a part of the Weſt alone comes within our circle, we have given a general account of that Riding alone. Of *Staffordſhire* the northern extremity only is deſcribed in this general manner. Theſe ſeveral territorial deſcriptions are terminated by a particular account of the whole ſyſtem of canal and river navigation which extends through and mutually connects theſe diſtricts, and which cannot be properly underſtood without tracing the ſeveral trunks and communicating branches from county to county, diſregarding all artificial boundaries.

The main body of the work then ſucceeds, conſiſting of the deſcription of *particular places*. Beginning with our centre, we proceed through all the principal towns and villages in the ſame order in which the counties have been treated of. Details are given, as accurate as our mate-

materials could ſupply, (in the collection of which neither pains nor expenſe have been ſpared) of population, government, inſtitutions public and private, trade, manufactures, and all that is important in the *preſent ſtate* of a place, not, however, entirely diſregarding narrations of paſt times, when they appeared intereſting. The very different degree in which our inquiries have produced the deſired information at different places, has prevented ſuch a proportional adjuſtment of ſpace to the accounts given of them, as their reſpective importance would ſeem always to require; but we truſt it will be found, that few matters of real utility have been paſſed over without ſome adequate degree of notice. It is hoped that the number of maps and plans for illuſtration, which, beſides the numerous views for ornament, have been allotted to this work, will materially aid the information it is intended to convey.

DESCRIP-


LANCASHIRE.
CUMBERLAND
WESTMORELAND
YORKSHIRE
IRISH SEA
CHESHIRE
AMBLESIDE
Water Head
Low Wood
Troutbeck Br.
HAWKSHEAD
BOWNESS
Kendal
Coniston
Grizedale
Dudden R.
Crake R.
Leven R.
Duddon R.
Broughton
Coulton
Kirkby
Stanley
CARTMEL
Winster River
Bowland Br.
Counties Stones
KIRBY LONSDALE
BURTON
Whittington
Lunsfield
Melling
Tatham
Bethan
THORNBY
Warton
Arkholm
Landfield
to Richmond and York
ULVERSTON
Pennington
DALTON
Much Urwick
Aldingham
Barrow Head
BAY OF MORECAMBE
Harbour of Foulney
DUDDON RIVER
LEVEN R.
Holton
Halton
River Lune
Llanghton
Great Stone or 4 Stones
Caton
Rokerndale
LANCASTER
Heysham
Moors
Ravenscastle
Sunderland Pt.
Lancaster Canal
Ellet
Thurnham Spouts
Hanthornthwait
Haysham Moors
Tarn Brook
Woolf Crags
Lockerbanks
Overdale
Fenton Gr.
Filling
Ravenall Ho.
Fiverall
Filling Moss
GARSTANG
Garstang Church town
Barnacre
Chipping
River Hodder
Thornton
Bispham
St Michaels
Ch.
Ge Eccleston
Inskip
POULTON
Thistleton
Lepricat
Ge Layton
Gr Marton
Bathing Place
Ribby
KIRKHAM
Clifton
Freckleton
Scales
Wharton
Ivytham
Preston
Ashton
Woodplumpton
Broughton
Plumpton
Whitechapel
Barton
Goosnargh
Whitehouse
Calbrith
Thralas
Ingoll
Fulwood
Ribbleton
Mitchelsbury
Hothersall
Lever
Salter Brook
Whitechapel
Sagh Lowry
Penwortham
Walton le Dale
Clayton le Dale
Great Harwood
Althum
Whalley
Pendleton
Hey Houses
CLITHEROE
Downham
Twiston
Gr Marsden
Pendleton
Pedisham
Ightenhill Park
BURNLEY
Widdop Head
Wolf Stones
London Crow Hill
Old Accrington
New Accrington
Huncoat
Hapton
Altham
Park
Habergham Eaves
Clivicar
Wolf Stones
Thurney Ford
Swine Head
Thawthorn
To Halifax
Hufenterrigg
Whitworth
Waterworth
Rooleycars Head
Reyton Hall
Middleton
Part
to Huddersfield
Oldham
Crumpsall
Manchester & Ashton Canal
MANCHESTER
Eccles
Barton
Patricroft
Park
Salford
Ashton
Irlam
Flixton
Glazebrook
Urmston
Stretford
Hulme
Quay
Hooley Hill
Peak Forest Canal
Hooley Br.
Dodson
Broadbottom
Stockport
Burnage
Didsbury
River Mersey
Duke of Bridgwater's Canal
Worsley
Barton
Patricroft
Park
Eccles

DESCRIPTION

OF THE

COUNTRY ROUND MANCHESTER.

I. *LANCASHIRE in general.*

LANCASHIRE is bounded on its whole ſouthern ſide by Cheſhire, the river Merſey marking the diviſion from the ſea as far as Stockport, and the Tame, for the remainder. Its whole eaſtern ſide joins to Yorkſhire, by a very irregular boundary line, not naturally marked, but for the moſt part following a mountainous chain. To the north it is bounded by Weſtmoreland; and to the weſt, by the Iriſh ſea, and by a ſmall part of Cumberland, which touches its north-weſtern extremity.

It is an extenſive tract of country, of very unequal dimenſions in its different parts. The ſouthern part, as far the middle, and ſomewhat beyond, forms a quadrangular portion, keeping a pretty uniform breadth from the confines of Yorkſhire to the ſea. The county then narrows ſuddenly, by the encroachment of Yorkſhire, ſo that the remaining portion, as far as the limits of Weſtmoreland, has an inconſiderable breadth. A third portion is quite detached from the reſt by an arm of the ſea, and is a roundiſh tract, lying to the north-weſt of the whole main

main part of the county. A line drawn from the northern extremity of this detached part, to the Merſey, would meaſure full 70 miles; but the length of the county, excluſive of this part, is about 54. The medium breadth of its ſouthern portion is 40 miles. Mr. Yates, the author of the Lancaſhire map by ſurvey, gives the county the following dimenſions: greateſt length 74 miles, breadth 44½, circumference (croſſing the Ribble at its mouth) 342 miles; ſurface 1765 ſquare miles, or 1,129,600 ſtatute acres.

Face of the country.—The ſouthern part of Lancaſhire is a tract of nearly level land extending from the high country of Yorkſhire to the ſea. Through the eaſtern part of this tract various rivers and ſtreams take their winding courſe, finally terminating in the Merſey. A number of moſſes, or peat-bogs, are found in various parts, ſome of great extent. Theſe become more numerous on approaching the ſea-coaſt, which throughout this county is univerſally low and flat. On advancing a little northerly, a ridge of hills, connected with the great Yorkſhire chain, makes a deep inroad, extending from eaſt to weſt as far as the centre of the county, and appearing in detached eminences pretty far to the weſt. Behind this firſt ridge is an interval of level country; and then commences another hilly tract, running along the borders of Yorkſhire, and puſhing more or leſs into Lancaſhire, but every where leaving a ſpace of flat land between it and the ſea. This ſpace is, however, more and more narrowed on proceeding northwards, till at the Weſtmoreland border it is reduced to a very ſmall breadth. On the whole, if a line were drawn from Lancaſter to Preſton, and thence through Mancheſter, to Aſhton-under-line, it would leave the hilly country to the eaſt, and the level to the weſt.

As

As to the detached part or diſtrict of Furneſs, it is throughout an irregular and romantic mixture of hills, narrow vales, lakes, and ſtreams, the mountains being moſt wild and lofty on the Cumberland border. But its ſouthern extremity, which projects into the ſea, contains a conſiderable tract of level land, fronted by the ſingular bow-like iſle of Walney, which is of the ſame nature.

RIVERS.

The *Merſey* will be traced among the rivers of Cheſhire.

The *Irwell*.—This may be conſidered as the principal river of the ſouth-eaſtern part of the county, as it unites all the reſt, and is the only one navigable. The Irwell may be traced up to the moors near the Yorkſhire border about the parallel of Haſlingden. From an union of ſtreams in that quarter, a rivulet is formed, which runs through the manor of Tottington to Bury, a little below which, receiving the Roch, it turns weſtward; but ſoon, meeting with a ſtream coming from Bolton, it is bent in an acute angle ſouth-eaſtwards, and takes its courſe to Mancheſter. Here, after receiving the Irk and the Medlock, its direction is again changed weſterly, and proceeding through Barton, where it is croſſed by the Duke of Bridgewater's canal, it mixes at length with the Merſey below Flixton. It is made navigable from Mancheſter to its junction with the Merſey, and thence to the ſea.

The *Roch*, riſing out of the bordering ridge of hills called Black-ſtone-edge, and uniting ſeveral ſtreams from both ſides as it flows, paſſes Rochdale, and joins the Irwell near Radcliff.

The

The ſtreams which compoſe the *Irk* come principally from Royton and Oldham. It takes a ſhort courſe to empty itſelf into the Irwell at Mancheſter.

The *Medlock* coming out of Yorkſhire has alſo a branch from Oldham, and terminates in the ſame manner as the former.

The *Douglas*, taking its riſe from the neighbourhood of Rivington Pike, runs firſt ſouthwards to Wigan, where, receiving other ſtreams from the ſouth, it is forced to a north-weſterly direction; and after being augmented by the Eller-brook from Ormſkirk, and the united Yarrow and Loſtock rivulets from Chorley and Cuerden, it empties itſelf into the broad eſtuary of the Ribble at Much-hool. It is made navigable from Wigan.

The *Darwent*, ſpringing from among the hills about Over Darwen and Roſendale, runs a little to the ſouth of Blackburn, receiving a ſtream from that town, and then winds away to the weſt, and mixes with the Ribble at Walton-le-dale.

The *Ribble*, the principal river of the middle of Lancaſhire, and which makes the ſeparation between its broader and narrower portion, riſes in the Weſt Riding of Yorkſhire, and flowing ſouthwards between the noted mountains Ingleborough and Penigent, paſſes Settle and Bolton, and reaches the confines of Lancaſhire above Clitheroe, becoming for a ſhort ſpace the boundary line. Then, receiving from the north-weſt the Hodder, (a Yorkſhire ſtream, which alſo ſerves ſome way for a boundary) and the Calder, from the eaſt, it holds on a weſterly courſe, winding through a rich vale, by Ribcheſter, to Walton near Preſton, where

where it is joined by the Darwent. Immediately below Penwortham it widens into a ſhallow and broad eſtuary, which makes a great gap in the ſea-coaſt line of the county, but is unfit for the navigation of veſſels of any burthen. The Ribble, at ſome periods a very inconſiderable ſtream, in time of floods brings down vaſt quantities of water, and with great impetuoſity.

The *Calder* riſes from the moors on the borders near Colne, and running weſterly, joins the Ribble near Whalley.

The *Wyer* unites the ſtreams of the country between the Ribble and Lune. It takes its riſe from the wild country of Wyerſdale, on the Yorkſhire border, and running ſouth-weſt to Garſtang, receives many ſtreams from the eaſt and ſouth, which turn it due weſt; when paſſing near Poulton, it bends northerly, expanding into a ſort of baſon called Wyer-water, and again contracting, enters the ſea by a narrow channel, which has depth of water enough to afford entrance and ſafe harbour to ſhips of burthen.

The *Loyne* or *Lune*, ſpringing from the fells of Weſtmoreland, holds a direct ſouthern courſe to Kirkby-Lonſdale, below which town it arrives at the Lancaſhire border, and running ſouth-weſterly, receives the Greta and the Wenning out of Yorkſhire, and flowing through a delightfully romantic dale, reaches Lancaſter. Hence it becomes navigable for ſhips, though veſſels of conſiderable burthen cannot without difficulty come nearer the town than two miles. It expands below Lancaſter into a baſon, and enters the ſea at Sunderland Point.

The

The diſtrict of Furneſs is too ſmall to afford rivers of any conſequence. The *Winſter*, which makes its ſeparation from Weſtmoreland on the eaſt, empties into the mouth of the Ken. The waters of the lake of Winder-meer are diſcharged by the *Leven*, which, meeting with thoſe from Coniſton-meer, diſcharged by the *Crake*, forms with it Leven-water, a ſmall eſtuary fordable at low water. The *Duddon*, which ſeparates Furneſs from Cumberland, widens, below Broughton, into a ſimilar eſtuary, called Duddon-water..

LAKES.

Winander-meer, or *Winder-meer*, in Furneſs, is the moſt extenſive piece of water in England, being about ten miles in length, though no where one in breadth; its direction running north and ſouth. Its general depth in the middle is 90 feet, but oppoſite to Eccleſrig crag it is 222 feet, the bottom ſmooth horizontal ſlate rocks. Before ſtorms it has a current in the oppoſite direction from whence the wind comes. The diviſion of the counties of Weſtmoreland and Lancaſter paſſes through the northern part of this lake, but the ſouthern is all in Lancaſhire. Its iſlands or holms, however, all belong to Weſtmoreland. Winder-meer is a capital object to thoſe who make the tour of the northern lakes, and affords many ſtriking points of proſpect.

Coniſton-water is about half the ſize of the former. It is ſituated in Furneſs, parallel to Winder-meer, and a few miles diſtant from it. Between the two lies another ſmall meer, called *Eaſthwaite-water*.

SOIL.

The ſoil of the county is very various, though the changes are not ſo rapid as in ſome other parts. The greateſt portion of the diſtrict between

tween the Ribble and Merſey has at the ſurface a ſandy loam, well fitted for the production of moſt cultivated vegetables. The ſubſtratum is generally red rock or clay marl. There is alſo a black ſandy loam, ſomewhat different from the above, the ſubſtratum of which is white ſand, under which is clay, and then marl. There are likewiſe tracts of white ſand lands, and a few pebbly gravel lands. Some ſtiff land is met with, but no obdurate clay. The vales are generally fertile; but the ſoil becomes more barren on approaching the hills, which are moſtly compoſed of moor-land in a ſtate of nature, overrun with heath and wild plants.

Moſſes.—Lancaſhire abounds in thoſe bogs or moraſſes which bear the provincial name of *moſſes*. Some of theſe are large tracts of land, and by their brown and ſterile appearance greatly deform the face of the country. They conſiſt of a ſpungy ſoil, compoſed evidently of the roots of decayed vegetables intermixed with a rotten mould of the ſame origin. This matter is of a light colour and texture near the ſurface, but becomes darker and heavier on deſcending, and is converted into the ſubſtance called turf or peat, which is uſed as a fuel, and ſometimes contains ſo much bituminous matter as to flame at a candle. This kind of ſoil is ſeveral feet in depth, and contains in many parts large trees buried, and preſerved from putrefaction by excluſion of the air. They are of different colours and very inflammable, but often ſo ſound as to be capable of being worked into furniture. On penetrating quite through the moſs-earth, ſand or clay, the common ſoil of the country, is met with. Hence there can be little reaſon to doubt that theſe tracts were once foreſt-land, which being neglected, and ſuffered to be inundated, at length became bogs. The trees that grew on them were overthrown, and then covered by the rank vegetation. As plants died, others ſucceeded,

ceeded, and thus an artificial ſoil was produced, which continually increaſed. Some of theſe moſſes now riſe ſeveral feet above the level of the ſurrounding country. They are covered with a variety of plants proper to them; as all the tribes of heath, bilberry, cranberry, crowberry, Andromeda polifolia, Lancaſhire aſphodel, ſun-dew, cotton graſs, and the fragrant Myrica Gale, or bog-myrtle. In dry weather, the upper cruſt of turf will bear the foot, but for a large ſpace round the ground ſhakes with the tread, and horſes or cattle cannot venture upon it. In wet ſeaſons the moſſes are impaſſable, and ſo ſwollen in their ſubſtance as ſometimes to conceal objects from the oppoſite ſides which are viſible in dry ſeaſons. Some of them are partially drained by deep ditches, which diſcharge a water deeply tinctured with brown, and unfit for uſe. Were it not for ſuch drains, they would probably ſometimes ſwell to burſting, as Solway-moſs in Cumberland ſome years ago did, and as Chat-moſs, one of the largeſt in Lancaſhire, is recorded to have done in the age preceding Camden, when it diſgorged into the Merſey, and by its black contents killed the fiſh for a large ſpace. Good land is continually gained from the edges of the moſſes, after the peat is cut away for fuel. By marling, the remaining boggy earth is made ſolid, and the land proves extremely fertile. It is ſcarcely to be doubted that the whole of them may in time be reclaimed by means of effectual draining; though at preſent the great depth of the looſe bog in their central parts offers a formidable obſtacle.

The quantity of waſte lands in Lancaſhire is great. Mr. Yates calculated that the moſs-lands amount to 26,500 acres, the moors, marſhes, and commons, to 482,000; making together 508,500 acres. Much of this is incapable of tillage, but might be improved by draining, planting, and various other modes.

MANURES.

MANURES.

The chief manure of the county is marl, which is found in moſt parts of it, and of various qualities, adapted to different ſoils. To the ſtiff clay lands, the blue or reddiſh ſlate marl, full of calcareous earth, is moſt effectual; but to the light ſand lands, the ſtrong clayey marl is beſt ſuited. By its means, ſome of the barren ſandy heaths have been rendered productive, but at a conſiderable expence, ſince it is neceſſary to lay on ſo much as to give a new ſtaple to the ſoil. Near the ſea, ſea-ſlutch is uſed for a manure, and in ſome places a ſand full of ſea-ſhells is found, which anſwers inſtead of marl. Lime is occaſionally uſed; and the neighbourhood of towns is ſupplied with various articles of manure from the refuſe of manufactures.

CLIMATE.

It is commonly obſerved that the whole weſtern ſide of the kingdom is more ſubject to rain than the eaſtern, the evident cauſe of which is, that it firſt receives the clouds from the Atlantic ocean, by which this iſland is principally watered. The ſituation of Lancaſhire in a peculiar manner expoſes it to the operation of this general cauſe, as the hills which form its line of ſeparation from Yorkſhire arreſt the clouds in their progreſs, and cauſe them to depoſite their contents: hence, the quantity of rain that falls is augmented in proportion to the nearneſs of the hills. Thus at Townley it was found by obſervation, that 42 inches of rain fell annually at a medium, whereas at Mancheſter only 33 fell. This wetneſs of the climate is unfortunate to the growth of corn and the ripening of fruit, but it is ſerviceable to paſturage, and produces an almoſt perpetual verdure in the fields. The froſts, too, are leſs ſevere and laſting than on the eaſtern ſide of the hills, and cattle

tle in common years can be kept abroad all the winter. On the whole, the climate, though unpleaſant, is not unſalubrious, or unfavourable to the wants of man, eſpecially ſince the culture of potatoes has ſecured a quantity of food not much liable to injury from the weather. The healthineſs of the county is ſhewn in the appearance of the inhabitants, who are, in general, a tall, florid, and comely race. Scrofulous affections, indeed, are common among thoſe who inhabit the wetteſt parts, and live poorly; and conſumptions ariſing from this cauſe are very frequent.

PRODUCTIONS.

The grain principally cultivated is oats, which, when ground to meal, is the principal food of the labouring claſs, eſpecially in the northern and eaſtern parts of the county. A good deal of barley, and ſome wheat, is grown in Low Furneſs, the Filde, and in the ſouth-weſtern parts of the county; but, on the whole, it is ſuppoſed that Lancaſhire does not raiſe more than one quarter of the grain it conſumes. The lands near the great towns are chiefly employed in paſturage; and at a greater diſtance, a large portion of the ground is in paſturage and meadow. A great number of cows are kept near the towns for the purpoſe of ſupplying them with milk and butter. Conſiderable quantities of cheeſe are alſo made in ſome parts, of which the moſt in repute is that from the neighbourhood of Leigh and Newborough, which is mild and rich, and particularly valued for toaſting. Buttermilk is a great article of food among the poor in this county, either mixed with oatmeal or potatoes, or drank at meals with water.

That ineſtimable root, the potatoe, was long an article of common diet in Lancaſhire and Cheſhire, before it was known otherwiſe than

as

as a garden vegetable in moſt other parts of the kingdom; and theſe counties are ſtill peculiarly celebrated for the fineſt and moſt productive kinds. The beſt in this county are ſuppoſed to grow in the light ſandy ſoil of ſome of the ſea-coaſt pariſhes, eſpecially the Meales near Ormſkirk. It is imagined that they were originally introduced into theſe parts from Ireland, where Sir Walter Raleigh, who brought them from America, had cultivated them; but at preſent large quantities are ſent from the Lancaſhire ports to Dublin.

With reſpect to woods, it is with difficulty that trees of any kind can be reared near the ſea on account of the violence of the weſtern winds. In Furneſs many acres of coppice wood are cut down in rotation every 15 years, and burned into charcoal for the uſe of the ſmelting furnaces. Towards the centre of the county are ſome thriving woods with good timber; a conſiderable quantity is alſo grown in hedge rows; but on the whole, the growth of timber trees is on the decline, except in plantations about gentlemens' ſeats. Of late years, the alder has become an article of conſequence, both on account of the peculiar fitneſs of its food for making ſmooth poles for hanging cotton yarn to dry, as for its bark which is uſed for dying, and ſells at nearly 1d. per pound. Alders are planted on the looſe grounds on the ſide of the Duke of Bridgewater's canal by way of ſecuring the banks, and have proved in other reſpects a valuable plantation. Oſiers are found to be a very valuable production on account of the demand for them in making hampers, &c.

Lancaſhire is poſſeſſed of a peculiar breed of horned cattle, which forms a variety of the Lincolnſhire, being of ſmaller ſize, with wide ſpreading horns and ſtraight backs. Their hair is finely curled, and the

the elegance and regularity of their ſhape render this the moſt beautiful race of cattle this kingdom produces. The tract adjacent to Garſtang is the principal ſeat of this breed.

But few ſheep are kept in the ſouthern part of the county, except thoſe purchaſed by butchers, or fed by gentlemen on their grounds. In the northern parts, ſheep are bred and kept upon the moors and mountains. There is alſo a breed called the Warton or Silver-dale ſheep, which is much eſteemed for the flavour of its fleſh, fineneſs of wool, and tendency to fatten.

A greater number of horſes has been bred of late years than formerly, owing to the increaſed demand; but much attention has not been paid to the breed. Strong horſes are moſt in uſe for ordinary purpoſes. The ſtock of ſwine is generally purchaſed from herds brought out of the neighbouring counties, or from Wales and Ireland.

That beautiful fiſh, the Charr, (*Umbla*) which is a native of the lakes of the northern and mountainous parts of Europe, is found alſo in Winder-meer and Coniſton-water. Mr. Pennant ſays, that the largeſt and moſt beautiful ſpecimens of this fiſh which he ever ſaw were taken in Winder-meer, and ſent him under the names of caſe charr, gelt charr, and red charr. On the cloſeſt examination he could not diſcover any ſpecific differences between theſe, and therefore conſiders them as a variety of the ſame ſpecies. There is, however, a remarkable difference in their time of ſpawning. The caſe charr ſpawns about Michaelmas, and chiefly in the river Brathy, which, uniting with another called the Rowthay, falls into the northern end of the lake. The Brathy has a black rocky bottom; that of the Rowthay is bright ſand,

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and the charr are never obſerved to enter it. Some of them, however, ſpawn in the lake, but only in its ſtony parts. They are ſuppoſed to be in perfection about May, and continue ſo all the ſummer, yet are rarely caught after April. The red charr ſpawns from the beginning of January to the end of March. They are never known to aſcend the rivers, but lie in thoſe parts of the lake where the bottom is ſmooth and ſandy, and the water warmeſt. They are taken in the greateſt plenty from the end of September to the end of November, and are much more eſteemed for eating than the former. The Coniſton charr are reckoned very fine, and are fiſhed later than thoſe of Winder-meer, and continue longer in the ſpring.

Salmon are found in all the Lancaſhire rivers. Smelts, called here ſparlings, come in great ſhoals up the Merſey to ſpawn in the ſpring, but not as long as there is any ſnow water in the river. They are remarkably large and fine there. The graining is a fiſh ſuppoſed peculiar to the Merſey; it much reſembles a dace, but is more ſlender, with a ſtraighter back.

MINERALS.

The moſt valuable mineral production of Lancaſhire is coal, the great plenty of which has been a conſiderable encouragement to the ſettlement of manufactures in the county. They abound moſt in the two ſouthern hundreds of Weſt Derby and Salford, and the adjacent eaſtern one of Blackburn. The tracts containing them run from the north-eaſt to the ſouth-weſt. None are met with north of the Ribble; and all the ſea-coaſt parts northwards are ſupplied by means of the river Douglas, which carries the coals from the neighbourhood of Wigan to the mouth of the Ribble. The kinds of coal are as various, as the quantity

is abundant. The greater part are quick-burning, not caking or turning to cinders, but leaving a light white aſh; there are, however, coals of a different quality, excellent for the ſmith's uſe. One of the moſt noted ſpecies of coal is that termed cannel, or kennel, which looks almoſt like pure bitumen, is highly inflammable, ſplits with a fine poliſhed ſurface not ſoiling the fingers, and is occaſionally wrought into figures and toys. It burns rapidly when ſtirred, yielding a bright flame, and crackling; but if left to itſelf, it ſolders together, and keeps in a ſmothering fire for a long time. The Lancaſhire coals are chiefly uſed in the county and the adjacent parts of Cheſhire; but ſome are exported from Liverpool, and this quantity is increaſed ſince the canal from that port to Wigan has afforded a more copious ſupply.

There are quarries of ſtone of different kinds in various parts of the county. Near Lancaſter is an extenſive quarry of free-ſtone which admits of a fine poliſh. The town is built of it. Flags and grey ſlates are dug at Holland near Wigan. The beſt ſcythe ſtones are got at Rainsford, and alſo fine pipe clay. Lime-ſtone is found in abundance in the northern and north-eaſtern diſtricts; but no calcareous earth, except in marl, is met with towards the ſouthern parts, a ſmall quantity of lime-ſtone pebbles upon the banks of the Merſey excepted. There are few other mineral productions, except in the detached diſtrict of Furneſs. This is properly a mineral tract. Its lower parts yield quantities of iron ſtone, which is partly ſmelted upon the ſpot, partly exported. In the hilly parts are mines of copper and lead; and there are quarries of fine blue ſlate, which is a conſiderable article of exportation. At Anglezark, a little to the eaſt of Chorley, is a lead mine at preſent worked, though to a ſmall extent. It is the only mine in England known to yield that curious mineral the Aerated Barytes, of which

which a particular account is given in a paper by Mr. James Watt, jun. printed in the 3d vol. of the *Manchester Tranſactions*.

PROPERTY.

Since the introduction of manufactures, property has become more minutely divided. But there remain proprietors who hold very extenſive poſſeſſions; and the remark of Camden, of the number of ancient families which bear the names of the places where they reſide, is ſtill applicable to this county. The yeomanry, formerly numerous and reſpectable, have greatly diminiſhed of late, many of them having entered into trade: but in their ſtead, a number of ſmall proprietors have been introduced, whoſe chief ſubſiſtence depends upon manufactures, but who have purchaſed land round their houſes, which they cultivate by way of convenience and variety.

In moſt townſhips there is one farm, ſtill diſtinguiſhed by the name of the Old Hall, or manor-houſe (the former reſidence of the great proprietor of the diſtrict), which is of larger extent than any of the neighbouring farms; few of them, however, exceed 600 ſtatute acres; and many do not reach 200. The more general ſize of farms is from 50 down to 20 acres, or even as much only as will keep a horſe or cow.

But few open or common fields are now remaining, the inconveniencies attending them having cauſed great exertions to effect a diviſion of property, ſo that each individual might have his grounds contiguous, and cultivate them after his own method. The encloſures are in general very ſmall, ſo as to occaſion much loſs of ground in hedges and fences, and in ſome meaſure to obſtruct the free action of the ſun and air.

air. In the lands of large proprietors, however, this fault is amending. There can be no doubt that in this county, inclofure has increafed population.

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

The people of Lancafhire were comprehended under the Roman denomination of *Brigantes*, which included the inhabitants of all the northern part of England. In like manner they comprized part of the Saxon kingdom of *Northumberland*. The diftrict was named by the Saxons *Lonkafterfcyre*. It had its particular lords under the Norman government, and gave the title of earl to Edmund, younger fon of Henry III.; a fucceffor of whom was created duke by Edward III. On his death without iffue male, the fame king created John of Gaunt, his fourth fon, (who had married the heirefs of the laft poffeffor) duke of Lancafter, and advanced the county to the dignity of a *palatinate* in his favour. The patent for this purpofe grants to the duke his court of chancery to be held within the county, his juftices for holding the pleas of the crown and all other pleas relating to common law, and finally, "all other liberties and royalties relating to a *county palatine*, as freely and fully as the earl of Chefter is known to enjoy them within the county of Chefter." John of Gaunt was fucceeded in his dukedom by his fon Henry of Bolingbroke, who afterwards afcended the throne under the title of Henry IV. This king, by authority of parliament, fecured to his heirs the poffeffion of this inheritance, with all its rights and liberties, in the fame manner as he received it before he came to the crown. Henry V. annexed to this duchy the great eftates which fell to him in right of his mother, daughter and co-heirefs of Humphrey Bohun, earl of Hereford. Since that time, the *duchy of Lancafter*, comprehending, befides the county of Lancafter, great eftates

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in various parts of the kingdom, has ſubſiſted, as a ſeparate poſſeſſion belonging to the kings of England, having its own chancellor, attorney, receivers, and other officers. The law offices for the county palatine are held at Preſton.

With reſpect to common judicial adminiſtration, Lancaſhire is a part of the northern circuit, and the aſſizes for the county are held twice a year at the county-town, Lancaſter.

Lancaſhire ſends 14 members to parliament, provides 800 men to the national militia, and pays only five parts out of the 513 of the land-tax of England.

The county is divided into ſix hundreds, viz. thoſe of Salford, Weſt Derby, Leyland, Blackburne, Amounderneſs, aand Lonſdale. They are ſubdivided into the following townſhips:

SALFORD *Hundred.**

Mancheſter,	Barton,	Crompton,
Salford,	Pendleton,	Aſhton,
Stretford,	Pendlebury,	Hundersfield,
Withington,	Urmſton,	Caſtleton,
Heaton Norris,	Flixton,	Spotland,
Chorlton Row,	Preſtwich,	Butterworth,
Reddiſh,	Pilkington,	Bolton with hamlets,
Cheetham,	Oldham,	Turton with Longworth,
Worſley,	Royton,	
Cliſton,	Chadderton,	Edgworth with hamlets,

* Pays $\frac{14}{100}$ of the county rates; raiſes 293 militia men.

Harwood,

Harwood with hamlets,
Blackrod with Aſpull,
Rivington, Loſtock, and Anglezark,
Hulton magna,
Hulton parva,
——— middle,
Weſt Haughton,
Farnworth, Rumſworth, and Kerſley,
Heaton, Horwich, and Halliwell,
Radcliffe,
Bury with hamlets,
Tottington.

West Derby *Hundred.**

Wigan,
Ince and Pemberton,
Holland and Dalton,
Hindley and Abram,
Billinge, Orrell, and Winſtanley,
Haigh,
Winwick and Hulme,
Newton,
Lowton and Kenyon;
Haydock and Golbourne,
Aſhton in Mackerfield,
Culcheth,
Southworth, Croft, Middleton, and Arbury,
Preſcott,
Whiſton,
Rainhill,
Eccleſton,
Rainford,
Windle,
Parr,
Sutton,
Widnes and Appleton,
Bold,
Cuerdley and Crouton,
Ditton and Penketh,
Sankey,
Walton and Fazakerley,
Formby,
Derby,
Liverpool,
Kirkdale,
Bootle and Linacre,
Everton,
Ormſkirk,
Burſchough,
Latham,
Scariſbrick,
Bickerſteth and Skelmerſdale,
Warrington,
Burtonwood,
Woolſton and Poolton,
Rixton and Glaſsbrook,
Leigh and Pennington,
Atherton,
Weſt Leigh,
Bedford,
Aſtley,
Tildeſley with Shackerley,
Childwall,
Hale and Halewood,
Great Woolton,
Little Woolton,
Wavertree,
Speak,
Garſton,
Allerton,
Huyton and Robey,
Knowſley,
Tarbock,
Hallfall,
Melling,

* Pays $\frac{24}{100}$ of the county rates; raiſes 202 militia men.

Down

Down Holland,
Lydiate,
Maghull,
Sephton, Netherton, and Lunt,
Ince, Blundell, and Little Croſby,
Thornton and Great Groſby,
Litherland, Ayntree, Orrett, and Ford,
Aughton,
North Meales, Croſby, and Birkdale,
Altcar.

Leyland *Hundred.**

Leyland,
Euxton,
Hoghton, Withnall, Wheelton, and Heapey,
Clayton, Cuerden, and Whittle in the Woods,
Croſton and Rufford,
Tarleton, Much Hoole, and Little Hoole,
Mawdeſley, Briſpham, Heſketh, and Beconſall,
Bretherton and Ulveſwalton,
Standiſh with Langtree,
Copull and Worthington,
Heath Charnock, and Anderton,
Charnock Richard,
Skevington, and Walſh Whittle,
Duxbury and Adlington,
Penwortham and Hutton,
Longton,
Farrington and Howick,
Eccleſton and Heſkin,
Wrightington and Parbold,
Bindle,
Chorley.

Blackburne *Hundred.*†

Blackburne,
Mearley,
Altham,
Downham,
Clitheroe,
Chatburne,
Worſton,
Church,
Cliviger,
Haſlingden,
Oſbaldeſton,
Balderſtone,
Cuerdale,
Simonſtone,
Little Harwood,
Great & Little Pendleton,
Hapton,
Burnley,
Padiham,
Samleſbury,
Liveſay with Tockholes,
Oſwaldtwiſle,
Aighton, Bailey, and Chaidgley,

* Pays $\frac{9}{100}$ of the county rates; raiſes 44 militia men.
† Pays $\frac{18}{100}$ of the county rates; raiſes 123 militia men.

Sailſbury.

Sailſbury,
Huntcoat,
Chipping,
Brerecliff with Extwiſle,
Great Harwood,
Billington,
Clayton in le moors,
Nether Darwen,
Thornley with Wheatley,
Riſhton,
Foulrigg,
Pleaſington,
Mellor with Eccleſhill,
Marſden,
Over Darwen,
Whilpſhire with Dinkley,
Clayton in le dale,
Wiſwall,
Colne,
Worſthorne,
Dutton,
Mitton, Henthorne and Colecotes,
Read,
Ribcheſter with Dilworth,
Witton,
Twiſton,
Whalley,
Walton in le dale,
Bolland Foreſt,
Pendle Foreſt,
Ightenhill Park,
Heyhouſes,
Trawden,
Roſſendale,
Old Accrington,
New Accrington.

Amounderness *Hundred.**

Preſton,
Barton,
Broughton,
Lea,
Aſhton,
Fiſhwick,
Grimſargh with Brock holes,
Ribbleton,
Haighton,
Elſton,
Alſton with Hotherſall,
Gooſnargh,
Whittingham,
Garſtang,
Catterall,
Bilſborough,
Claughton,
Kirkham,
Weſtby with Plumpton,
Cliſton,
Newton with Scales,
Freckleton,
Warton,
Brining with Kellamergh,
Ribby with Wrea,
Weeton with Preeſe,
Medlargh with Weſham,
Newſham,
Trayles,
Great and Little Singleton,
Wood Plumpton,
Lythom,
Greenhalgh with Thiſleton,
Elſwick,
Poulton,

* Pays $\frac{10}{100}$ of the county rates; raiſes 64 militia men.

Thornton,

Thornton,
Marton,
Hardhorn with Newton,
Carleton,
Little Eccleſton with Larbreck,
Great Eccleſton,
Inſkip with Sowerby,
Biſpham with Norbreck,
Layton with Warbreck,
Hambleton,
Stalmin with Staynall,
Preeſall with Hackinſall,
Upper Rawcliffe,
Outer Rawcliffe,
Myerſcough Foreſt,
Bleadale Foreſt.

LONSDALE *Hundred*.*

Lancaſter,
Caton with Claughton,
Middleton,
Tatham with Ireby,
Leek,
Skirton,
Whittington,
Ellell,
Urſwick,
Burrow,
Slyne with Heſt,
Kirby Ireleth,
Pennington,
Leeſe,
Poulton, Bare and Torriſholme,
Scotforth,
Ulverſtone,
Carnforth and Burnwick,
Aldingham,
Holker,
Nether Kellett,
Buck with Aldcliffe,
Warton,
Causfield,
Tunſtall,
Melling with Wreaton,
Wrea,
Wennington,
Arkholme with Cawood,
Hornby,
Heaton with Oxcliffe,
Bolton,
Dalton with Hutton,
Halton,
Overton,
Yealand with Silverdale,
Greſſingham,
Aſhton,
Thurnham,
Farleton,
Dalton with Furneſs,
Heyſham,
Alithwaite lower,
——— upper,
Broughton,
Cockerham,
Overkellet,
Quarmoor,
Wyerſdale,

* Pays $\frac{16}{100}$ of the county rates; raiſes 74 militia men.

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With reſpect to eccleſiaſtical juriſdiction, Lancaſhire is part of the dioceſe of Cheſter, and is divided in the following manner:

ARCHDEACONRY OF CHESTER.

Deanry *of* Manchester.

Pariſh Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
Aſhton-under-line, R.	- - -	E. of Stamford,
	Hey or Lees,	Rector of Aſhton.
	Moſley,	Ditto.
	Stayley-bridge,	E. of Stamford.
Bury, R.	- - -	E. of Derby.
	St. John's Bury,	Rector of Bury.
	Heywood,	Ditto.
	Holcombe,	Ditto.
	Edenfield,	Ditto.
Bolton le moors, V.	- - -	Biſhop of Cheſter.
	Little Bolton,	G. Gartſide, Eſq.
	Blackroad,	V. of Bolton.
	Bradſhaw,	Ditto.
	Turton,	M. Green, Eſq.
	Walmſley,	V. of Bolton.
	Rivington,	Inhabitants.
Dean, V.	- - -	The King.
	Horwich,	V. of Dean.
	Weſt Houghton,	Ditto.
Eccles, V.	- - -	The King.
	Ellenbrook,	D. of Bridgewater.
Flixton, Cur.	- - -	Preb. Flixton.
Middleton, R.	- - -	Ld. Suffield.
	Aſhworth,	W. Egerton, Eſq.

Cockey,

Parish Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
	Cockey,	R. of Middleton.
Manchester, Coll. ch.	- - -	Warden, by the king; 4 fellows and 2 chaplains, by the College.
——, St. Anne's, R.	- - -	B. of Chester.
——, St. John's, R.	- - -	Manchester College.
——, St. Mary's, R.	- - -	Ditto.
——, St. Paul's, Cur.	- - -	Ditto.
*	Ardwick,	Ditto.
	Birch,	J. Dickenson, Esq.
	Blakeley,	Manchester College.
	Cholerton or Chorlton,	Ditto.
	Denton,	Ld. Grey de Wilton.
	Didsbury,	W. Broom, Esq.
	Goston or Gorton,	Manchester College.
	Heaton Norris,	Ditto.
	Newton,	Ditto.
	Salford,	J. Gore Booth, Esq.
	Stretford,	Manchester College.
Radcliffe, R.	- - -	Ld. Grey de Wilton.
Prestwich with Oldham, R.	- - -	Rev. James Lyon.
	Oldham St. Mary, P.	R. of Prestwich, Bury, and Middleton.
	Ringley,	Ditto.
	Shaw,	R. of Prestwich.
	Unsworth,	Ditto.
	Royton,	Ditto.
	Hollingwood,	Ditto.
	Oldham chap.	Ditto.

Rochdale,

* Other churches have been erected or are now erecting in Manchester.

Parish Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
Rochdale, V.	- - -	Archb. Canterbury.
	Rochdale,	V. Rochdale.
	Friarmere,	Ditto.
	Hundersfield,	Ditto.
	Littleborough,	Ditto.
	Milnrow,	Ditto.
	Todmerden,	Ditto.
	Whitworth,	Ditto.

DEANRY *of* WARRINGTON.

Aughton, R.	- - -	T. Plumbe, Esq.
Childwall, V.	- - -	B. of Chester.
	Hale,	J. Blackburne, Esq.
	Garston,	Heirs of Topham Beauclerk, Esq.
Hallsal, R.	- - -	C. Mordaunt, Esq.
	Maghull,	R. of Halsall.
	Melling,	Ditto.
Huyton, V.	- - -	Ld. Sephton.
Leigh, V.	- - -	Starkey and Gwillim.
	Astley,	Inhabitants.
	Atherton or Chowbent,	—— Gwillim, Esq.
Northmeols, R.	- - -	Rev. J. Baldwin.
Ormskirk, V.	- - -	E. of Derby.
	Latham dom. chap.	R. W. Bootle, Esq.
	Skelmersdale,	V. of Ormskirk.
Prescott, V.	- - -	King's Coll. Camb.
	St. Helen's in Windle,	V. of Prescott.
	Farnworth,	Ditto.

Rainford,

Pariſh Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
	Rainford,	V. of Preſcott.
	Sankey,	R. V. Atherton Gwillym, Eſq.
Sephton, R.	- - -	
	Croſby Magna,	R. of Sephton.
Walton, R.	- - -	
——, V.	- - -	R. of Walton.
	Formby,	Ditto.
	Toxteth Park,	Ditto.
	Kirkby,	Ditto.
	Weſt Derby,	Ditto.
	Richmond,	Corporation of Liverp.
Liverpool two medieties, R. (St. Peter and St. Nicholas.)	- - -	Ditto.
*	St. George's, Liverpool,	Ditto.
	St. Paul's, ditto,	Ditto.
	St. Thomas's, ditto,	Ditto.
	Altcar cur.	E. of Sephton.
Warrington, R.	- - -	R. V. A. Gwillym, Eſq.
	Burtonwood,	R. of Warrington.
	Hollinfare,	Ditto.
	Trinity, Warrington,	T. Legh, of Lyme, Eſq.
Wigan, R.	- - -	Sir H. Bridgeman.
	Billinge,	R. of Wigan.
	St. George's Wigan,	Ditto.
	Hindley,	Ditto.
	Holland,	Ditto.
Winwick, R.	- - -	E. of Derby.

* Other churches have ſince been erected in Liverpool.

Aſhton,

Parish Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
	Aſhton,	R. of Winwick.
	Newchurch,	R. of Winwick.
	Lowton,	Ditto.
	Newton,	T. Legh, Eſq.
	DEANRY *of* BLACKBURNE.	
Blackburne, V.	- - -	Arch. Canterb.
	Balderſton,	V. of Blackburne.
	Darwen,	Ditto.
	Harwood,	Ditto.
	Lango,	Ditto.
	Law or Lowchurch, or Walton in le Dale,	Ditto.
	Samleſbury.	Ditto.
	Tockholes,	Ditto.
Whalley, V.	- - -	Archb. Canterb.
	Accrington,	V. of Whalley,
	Altham,	Aſheton Curzon, Eſq.
	Burnley,	E. Townley, Eſq.
	——— Caſtle, demoliſhed (the profits given to Whitwell.)	
	Churchkirk,	A. Curzon, Eſq.
	Clithero,	Ditto.
	Colne,	V. of Whalley.
	Downham,	A. Curzon, Eſq.
	Haſlingden,	Ditto.
	Goodſhaw (under Haſlingden,)	V. of Whalley.
	Holme (under Burnley,)	Ditto.

Marſden

Parish Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
	Marſden (under Colne,)	V. of Whalley.
	Newchurch in Pendle,	A. Curzon, Eſq.
	Newchurch in Roſendale,	V. of Whalley.
	Padiham,	Legendre Starkie, Eſq.
	Whitwell,	V. of Whalley.
	DEANRY *of* LEYLAND.	
Croſton, R. and V.	- - -	Rev. Dr. Maſter.
	Beconſall,	R. of Croſton,
	Chorley,	Ditto.
	Rufforth,	Ditto.
	Tarleton,	T. Legh, Eſq.
Brindle, R.	- - -	D. of Devonſhire.
Eccleſton, R.	- - -	R. Whitehead, Eſq.
	Douglas,	R. of Eccleſton.
Leyland, V.	- - -	Rev. T. Baldwin.
	Euxton,	V. of Leyland.
	Heapy,	Ditto.
Hoole, R.	- - -	Mr. Barton of Ormſkirk.
Penwortham, perp. cur.	- - -	Mr. Barton of Penwortham.
	Longton,	Ditto.
Standiſh, R.	- - -	Mr. Standiſh.
	Copull,	S. Crooke, Eſq.

ARCHDEACONRY OF RICHMOND.

DEANRY *of* AMOUNDERNESS.

Chipping, R. and V.	- - -	B. of Cheſter.
Garſtang, V.	- - -	Truſtees of Mr. Pedder.

Gar-

Pariſh Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
	Garſtang,	V. of Garſtang.
	Pilling,	G. Hornby, Eſq.
Kirkham, V.	- - -	Chriſt Ch. Coll. Oxon.
	Gooſenargh,	V. of Kirkham.
	Hambleton,	Ditto.
	Lund,	Ditto.
	Ribbey with Wray,	Ditto.
	Singleton,	Mr. Shaw.
	Warton,	V. of Kirkham.
	Whitechapel,	Ditto.
Cockerham, V.	- - -	F. Charteris, Eſq.
	Ellell,	V. of Cockerham.
	Shirehead,	Ditto.
Biſpham, perp. cur.	- - -	B. Heſketh, Eſq.
Lancaſter, V.	- - -	Dr. Marton.
	Admarſh,	V. of Lancaſter.
	Caton (Lonſdale deanry)	Ditto.
	Greſſingham (ditto)	Ditto.
	St. John, Lancaſter,	Ditto.
	Littledale (under Caton)	Inhabitants.
	Overton,	V. of Lancaſter.
	Poulton,	Ditto.
	Stalmin,	Ditto.
	Wyreſdale,	Ditto.
Lytham, perp. cur.	- - -	Prior. of Durham.
Poulton, V.	- - -	R. Heſketh, Eſq.
Preſton, V.	- - -	Sir H. Hoghton.
	Broughton,	Ditto.
	St. Laurence, (domeſt.)	Mr. Shuttleworth.
	St. George, Preſton,	V. of Preſton.

Grimſargh,

Parish Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
	Grimſargh,	V. of Preſton.
Ribcheſter,	- - -	B. of Cheſter.
	Longridge.	Sir H. Hoghton.
	Stidd,	V. of Ribcheſter.
St. Michael's on Wyre, V.	- - -	Mr. Swainſon.
	Copp,	V. of St. Michael's.
	Wood Plumpton,	Ditto.

Deanry *of* Furness *and* Cartmell.

Aldingham, R.	- - -	The King.
	Dendron,	R. of Aldingham.
Dalton, V.	- - -	The King.
	Irelith,	V. of Dalton.
	Ramſide,	Ditto.
	Walney (iſland)	Ditto.
Cartmell, perp. cur.	- - -	B. of Cheſter.
	Cartmell Fell,	L. Geo. Cavendiſh.
	Flookborough,	Ditto.
	Lindall,	Ditto.
	Staveley,	Ditto.
	Field Broughton,	Cur. of Cartmell.
Coulton, perp. cur.	- - -	Inhabitants and owners paying ſalary.
	Tinſthwait or Finſthwait,	Cur. of Coulton.
	Ruſland,	Ditto.
Hawkſhead, perp. cur.	- - -	The King.
	Satterthwaite,	Land Owners.
Kirkby Irelith, V.	- - -	Dean and Ch. York.

Broughton,

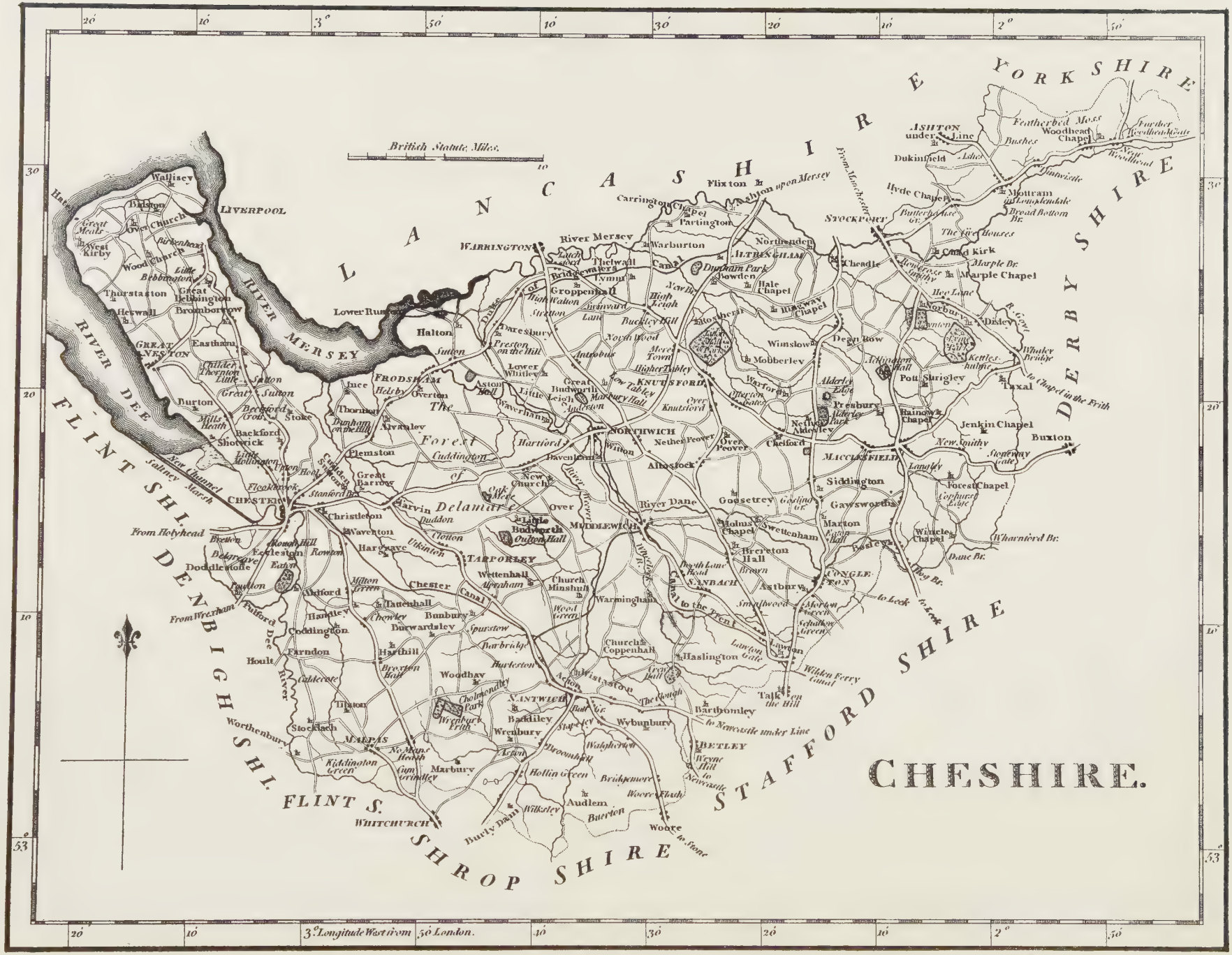
Parish Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
	Broughton,	Esther Sawrey.
	Seathwaite and Dunnerdale,	W. Penny, Esq.
	Woodland,	Land Owners.
Pennington, perp. cur.	- - -	The King.
Ulverston, perp. cur.	- - -	W. Bradyll, Esq.
	Blawith,	Ditto.
	Coniston,	Inhabitants.
	Lowick,	W F. Blencowe, Esq.
	Torver,	Cur. of Ulverston.
Urswick, V.	- - -	Inhabitants.

DEANRY *of* KIRKBY LONSDALE.

Claughton, R.	- - -	T. Legh, Esq.
Tatham, R.	- - -	Fr. Charteris, Esq.
	Tatham Fell,	R. of Tatham.
Whittington, R.	- - -	Rev. G. Hornby.
Melling, V.	- - -	The King.
	Archolm,	V. of Melling.
	Hornby,	F. Charteris, Esq.
Tunstall, V.	- - -	Heirs of Mrs. Borret.
	Leck,	V. of Tunstall.

DEANRY *of* RICHMOND.

Bolton in the Sands, V.	- - -	B. of Chester.
	Over Kellet,	Mr. Leapor and Inhab.


CHESHIRE.
LANCASHIRE
YORKSHIRE
DERBYSHIRE
STAFFORDSHIRE
SHROPSHIRE
FLINTSHIRE
DENBIGHSHI.
FLINT S.
RIVER MERSEY
RIVER DEE
British Statute Miles.
LIVERPOOL
WARRINGTON
CHESTER
NORTHWICH
KNUTSFORD
MACCLESFIELD
STOCKPORT
ASHTON under Line
Flixton
Carrington
Partington
Warburton
Lymm
Thelwall
Dunham Park
Bowdon
Hale
Altrincham
Northenden
Cheadle
Hyde Chapel
Marple Chapel
Disley
Norbury
Poynton
Prestbury
Adlington
Wilmslow
Mobberley
Alderley
Siddington
Gawsworth
Jenkin Chapel
Buxton
Leek
Halton
Lower Rumcorn
Daresbury
Preston on the Hill
Sutton
Frodsham
Aston
Lower Whitley
Great Budworth
Little Leigh
Marbury Hall
Anderton
Over Knutsford
Nether Peover
Over Peover
Chelford
Nether Alderley
Hassall Green
Sandbach
Astbury
Congleton
Church Minshull
Middlewich
Wimboldsley
Warmingham
Wettenhall
Tarporley
Utkinton
Hargrave
Clotton
Christleton
Waverton
Huxley
Tattenhall
Bunbury
Burwardsley
Spurstow
Harthill
Farndon
Coddington
Hatton
Caldecote
Tilston
Stockach
Malpas
Worthenbury
Kiddington Green
Marbury
Wrenbury
Baddiley
Wybunbury
Betley
Audlem
Woore
Burly Dam
Whitchurch
Wistaston
Nantwich
Barthomley
Talk on the Hill
Haslington
Crewe
Church Coppenhall
Lawton
Wilkin Ferry Canal
Smallwood
Astbury
Swettenham
Brereton Hall
Marton
Gawsworth
Wincle
Forest Chapel
Lanelay
Stoneway Gate
Whaley Bridge
Chapel in the Frith
Pott Shrigley
Taxal
Hayhead
Hey Lane
Marple Br.
Broad Bottom Br.
Featherbed Moss
Woodhead Chapel
Bushes
Dukinfield
Mottram in Longdendale
The five Houses
Grand Kirk
Norbury
Poynton
Wilmslow
Deen Row
Alderley Park
Hainow Chapel
Preasbury
Netherton
Alderley
Chelford
Jenkin Chapel
Buxton
Macclesfield
Siddington
Forest Chapel
Gawsworth
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Caldecote
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Tattenhall
Huxley
Waverton
Christleton
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Chelford
Jenkin Chapel
Buxton
Hyde Chapel
Marple Chapel
Disley
Cheadle
Hale
Bowdon
Dunham Park
Altrincham
Northenden
Carrington
Partington
Warburton
Lymm
Thelwall
Flixton
Irlam upon Mersey
Stockport
Ashton under Line
Liverpool
Walliscy
Bidston
Great Meols
Over Church
Birkenhead
Great Kirby
Wood Church
Little Bebbington
Great Bebbington
Thurstaston
Heswall
Brombarrow
Lower Rumcorn
Halton
Daresbury
Preston on the Hill
Sutton
Frodsham
Aston
Lower Whitley
Great Budworth
Little Leigh
Marbury Hall
Anderton
Over Knutsford
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Clotton
Christleton
Waverton
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Burwardsley
Spurstow
Harthill
Farndon
Coddington
Hatton
Caldecote
Tilston
Stockach
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Marbury
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Betley
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Woore
Burly Dam
Whitchurch
Wistaston
Nantwich
Barthomley
Talk on the Hill
Haslington
Crewe
Church Coppenhall

II.—*General Account of* CHESHIRE.

CHESHIRE is bounded by Lancaſhire on the whole northern ſide, except a ſmall point to the north-eaſt where it touches Yorkſhire; by Derbyſhire and Staffordſhire on the eaſt; by Shropſhire and a detached part of Flintſhire on the ſouth; by Denbighſhire and the reſt of Flintſhire on the weſt, touching alſo upon the Iriſh ſea at its north-weſtern extremity.

The form of this county is diſtinguiſhed by two horns or projections running eaſt and weſt from its northern ſide; one of which is made by the hundred of Wirral lying between the eſtuaries of the Merſey and Dee, the other by a part of Macclesfield hundred, puſhing out between Derbyſhire and Yorkſhire. A line drawn from the extremities of theſe two projections, meaſures 58 miles; but the extent of the county from eaſt to weſt acroſs its middle, does not exceed 40 miles. Its greateſt extent from north to ſouth is about 30 miles. It contains about 1040 ſquare miles, or 665,600 acres.

Face of the Country.—Cheſhire is for the moſt part a flat country, whence it has obtained the name of the *Vale Royal of England*, though this name properly refers to its central part, in which was ſituated the Abbey of Vale Royal, founded by Edward I. The principal hilly part is on the eaſtern border, where a chain of hills, ſome of them of conſiderable height, runs along its confines with Derbyſhire and the north of Staffordſhire, and joins the mountainous diſtricts of thoſe counties. There is likewiſe a lower and narrower chain of eminences,

nences, which beginning at Helſby and Overton, near Frodſham, in bold promontories above the Merſey, runs ſouthward acroſs the foreſt of Delamere, to Tarporley, ſtarts up in the inſulated rock of Beeſton, and again appearing in the wooded Broxton hills, at length ſinks in the vale of the Dee on the borders of Denbighſhire. About a mile to the ſouth of Altringham riſes an elevated tract of ground called Bowden downs, which extends to a conſiderable diſtance from eaſt to weſt. Its weſtern extremity is covered with the wood of Dunham park. Bowden church is ſituated on the ſummit of this tract, from whence there is a moſt extenſive view of a large part of Cheſhire and the ſouthern part of Lancaſhire. In various other parts the ſurface is varied by riſings and depreſſions; but the general character is unanimated flatneſs. Four-fifths of the county are probably not elevated more than from 100 to 200 feet above the level of the ſea.

Many ſtreams wind through its levels, moſt of which take their courſe northwards to join the great bordering river, the *Merſey*. This we ſhall firſt trace.

RIVERS.

The *Merſey* takes its origin from a conflux of ſmall ſtreams near the junction of Cheſhire with Derbyſhire and Yorkſhire, and firſt forms the eaſtern limit of the eaſtern horn of Cheſhire, under the name of the *Etherow* river. When arrived at the place where the Goyt meets it coming from the ſouth, they together, taking a middle direction, flow acroſs the root of the horn (as it may be termed) and reach Stockport. Here the *Tame*, which may be reckoned the other parent of the Merſey, and which forms the weſtern limit of the eaſtern horn, falls in. From this junction, the Merſey, under its proper name, forms the boundary

boundary between Lancaſhire and Cheſhire quite to the ſea. It takes a very winding courſe, receiving continual acceſſions, of which the principal are the river Irwell out of Lancaſhire, and the Bollin from Cheſhire, both which join it on its way to Warrington. Below this town it ſoon widens, having a large ſhallow channel, full at tide time, but exhibiting little except bare ſand at low water. Oppoſite Runcorn it is ſuddenly contracted by a tongue of land from the Lancaſhire ſide, forming Runcorn Gap. It then ſpreads again, and ſoon receives the large addition of the Weaver from the heart of Cheſhire. With this it ſwells into a broad eſtuary, and taking a north-weſtern courſe, diſembogues into the Iriſh channel below Liverpool.

The *Goyt* riſes near the place where the road from Macclesfield to Buxton croſſes the limits of the county, and it forms the boundary between Cheſhire and Derbyſhire till it meets the Etherow river near Chadkirk, as before deſcribed. The united ſtreams keep the name of Goyt till they reach the Merſey at Stockport.

The *Bollin* riſes in the hilly moors to the ſouth of Macclesfield, and paſſing that town, takes a north-weſt courſe through Preſtbury and Wilmoſlow, and joins the Merſey below Warburton.

The *Dane* riſes near the junction of Derbyſhire and Staffordſhire with Cheſhire, and forming for ſome way the limit between the two laſt counties, flows weſterly by Congleton and Holms-chapel, to Middlewich, where it receives the Wheelock from the ſouth. It then, turning northerly, paſſes Davenham in its courſe to Northwich, where it falls into the Weaver.

The

The *Wheelock*, riſing near Lawton on the borders of Staffordſhire, flows a little to the ſouth of Sandbach in its courſe to join the Dane at Middlewich.

The *Weaver*, the principal river of the middle of Cheſhire, riſes on the edge of Shropſhire, and holding a courſe almoſt directly north, paſſes Namptwich to Northwich, where, receiving the Dane, it turns weſterly, and in a very winding courſe, flows to Frodſham-bridge, below which it mixes with the Merſey.

The *Dee*, coming from Denbighſhire, reaches the border of Cheſhire in the ſouth-weſt, and forming for ſome way the limit of the two counties, paſſes between Holt and Farndon, and runs directly north to Cheſter. From this city it turns weſtward; and after flowing ſome miles in an artificial channel formed by embankment, at length ſpreads into a broad eſtuary ſeparating Flintſhire from the hundred of Wirral, and empties into the Iriſh ſea.

There are in various parts of Cheſhire ſmall lakes or meers, of which the principal are *Budworth-meer*, *Roſthern-meer*, *Meer-meer*, and *Tatton-meer*, all in Bucklow hundred, ſome meers on Delamere foreſt, *Comber-meer* in Namptwich hundred, and *Bar-meer* not far from Malpas. Several of theſe are of conſiderable depth, and well furniſhed with fiſh.

The proportion of cultivated to waſte land has been ſtated as follows:

Arable,

	Acres.
Arable, meadow, paſture, &c. about - - -	615,000
Waſte lands, heaths, commons, greens, woods, -	30,000
Peat bogs and moſſes, - - - - - -	20,000
Common fields, probably leſs than - - -	1,000
Sea ſands within the eſtuary of the Dee, - - -	10,000
	676,000

SOIL.

There are a great variety of ſoils in Cheſhire; clay, ſand, black moor or peat; marl and gravel, in various intermixed proportions, abound in different parts of the county. The three firſt, however, form the moſt predominant parts in the generally prevailing ſoils, and of theſe the largeſt proportion is a ſtrong retentive clay. The ſubſtratum is generally rammel or clay, marl, ſand, gravel, or red rock; but moſt commonly one of the two former, viz. clay or marl. The numerous moſſes, marſhy meadows, and peat bogs which abound in different parts of the county, ſeem ſufficiently to prove, that either clay, marl, or ſome other unctuous earth, is very generally at no great depth below the ſurface.

STATE OF PROPERTY AND FARMS.

There are in Cheſhire many very conſiderable eſtates poſſeſſed by gentlemen who have reſidencies within the county; and, indeed, it has been obſerved, that no county in England has preſerved more of the race of its ancient gentry. The number of proprietors of land, poſſeſſing from 500 to 1000*l.* per annum rent, are alſo many. But the race of yeomanry is ſuppoſed to be much diminiſhed; another ſpecies of

of freeholder, however, has increaſed in thoſe parts bordering on Lancaſhire and Yorkſhire, where a number of ſmall farms have been purchaſed by the manufacturers of cotton, &c. The tenure is almoſt univerſally freehold. There are ſome few copyholds, or what may be called cuſtomary freeholds, paying fines and rents certain, in Macclesfield, Halton, and one or two other manors. The land is occupied in farms of various extent; ſome may contain 500 acres and upwards; there are few, however, of more than 300 acres; though the practice (but too frequently a pernicious one) of laying farms together, ſeems to be increaſing. On the whole, it is probable that there is at leaſt one farmer to every eighty ſtatute acres.

AGRICULTURE AND PRODUCTS.

About three-fourths of the county is paſtured or mown; the other fourth is ploughed. The land is generally ploughed in rotation. The uſual courſe for ſtiff clayey land is to plough four years; firſt, oats; ſecond, fallow for wheat; third, wheat; fourth, oats; and then laid down with clover or graſs ſeeds, or both, and paſtured five or ſix years before it is again broken into tillage. Sandy land is ploughed only three years, and frequently bears a crop every year.

The *Manures* are, marl, lime, farm-yard dung, and various kinds of compoſt. On the eaſtern part of the country, lime is chiefly uſed; and on the weſt and ſouth, marl is the moſt general manure, of which there are various ſorts, viz. the clay marl, the blue ſlate marl, the red ſlate marl, ſtone marls, &c. The clay marl is ſuppoſed to prevail moſt. The quantity of marl uſed, varies according to its quality, and the quality and nature of the ſoil on which it is laid. The quantity is from one to two roods, each rood being ſeventy-two ſolid yards and upwards,

upwards, on an acre; the expence of it filled into the cart is about two-pence a yard. Marl is generally laid upon the turf, and after the froſt has had its effect upon it, it is ſometimes harrowed before the field is broken up. When lime is uſed, it is commonly mixed with gutter clods, ſcourings of ditches, or ſoil; and laid on the land for barley. Farm-yard dung is frequently mixed with the ſoil off the ſides of lanes, with furrows drawn from between the butts of paſture land, with gutter clods, ditchings, &c. and to theſe, marl or lime are ſometimes added. Sand is frequently uſed as manure on ſtiff lands with great ſucceſs.

Foul or dirtied ſalt is a moſt excellent manure, either for paſture land or fallows, when properly incorporated with ſoil, or other ſubſtances; and it is much to be regretted, that ſo large a quantity as 7 or 800 tons annually, in Cheſhire alone, ſhould be loſt to the community. The heavy duty laid upon refuſe, or dirtied ſalt, almoſt totally prevents its uſe for manure.

The markets for the overplus grain grown in Cheſhire are chiefly Mancheſter, Stockport, and Macclesfield. The oats are generally firſt ground into meal, which is made into bread or cakes, and conſumed in the N. E. of Cheſhire and ſouth of Lancaſhire.

Green crops, as winter food for cattle, are very little cultivated: there are, however, very conſiderable quantities of potatoes and carrots grown on the north ſide of the county, which are chiefly intended for the ſupply of the Lancaſhire markets.

Potatoes

Potatoes are cultivated in the pariſh of Frodſham, with as much ſucceſs, and probably to as great an extent, as in any other pariſh in the kingdom. It is eſtimated, that not leſs than 100,000 buſhels of 90lb. weight, have annually, for ſome years paſt, been grown in this pariſh; and a ready ſale has generally been found for them, owing to the great demand for this root in Lancaſhire, and to an eaſy and cheap communication with Liverpool, by means of the river Merſey, and with Mancheſter, by the duke of Bridgewater's canal. In years of plenty, when the market is overſtocked with potatoes, and the price is ſo low as one ſhilling per buſhel, conſiderable quantities have been given to different kinds of ſtock, viz. to feeding cattle, milch cows, horſes and hogs.

Dairies and cattle.—The moſt noted part for the production of cheeſe is ſaid to lie in the neighbourhood of the Wiches, eſpecially Namptwich, where the ſoil is more clayey than in other parts; but there is more or leſs made in every part of the county. The beſt Cheſhire cheeſes run from 60 to 140 pounds weight. Their excellence depends partly on the ſize, and partly on various nice and minute circumſtances in the making, only to be learned by experience, and which conſtitute the art of the very able and careful dairy-women of this county. The cheeſe is generally made with two meals milk, and that in dairies where two cheeſes are made in a day. In the beginning and end of the ſeaſon, three, four, and even five or ſix meals are kept for the ſame cheeſe. The proportion of cream withheld from the milk before it is put together, varies; but the general cuſtom in the beſt dairies is to take out about a pint of cream when two meal cheeſes are made, from the night's milk of twenty cows. The principal late improvement in cheeſe-

cheeſe-making has been the mode of preparing the *ſteep* or *rennet*, by infuſing all the maw-ſkins at once, and ſaturating the ſtrained liquor with ſalt. The colouring of cheeſe is Spaniſh arnotta. On the dairy farms one woman ſervant is generally kept to every ten cows, who is employed in winter in ſpinning and other houſehold buſineſs, but in milking is aſſiſted by all the other ſervants of the farm. The cheeſe is chiefly ſold in London, being exported from Cheſter, Frodſham-bridge, and Warrington. The Liverpool merchants buy ſome. A good deal is diſpoſed of to country dealers in Yorkſhire and Lancaſhire, and ſome goes into Scotland. The cattle in Cheſhire are probably kept to a greater age than in moſt other counties; for as the chief object with the farmers is their milk, when they meet with a good milker, they generally keep it till very old. The proper ſeaſon for calving is reckoned to be from the beginning of March to the beginning of May; and during theſe months more veal is probably fed in Cheſhire than in any other county, though generally killed young in order to ſpare the milk. As cows are kept chiefly for milking, and very few are fed, the farmers are leſs attentive to the beauty of their cattle than in many other counties, though they begin to be more curious in their breeds than formerly.

Horſes, ſheep, ſwine.—The horſes employed in huſbandry are generally of the ſtrong black kind, the beſt of which are purchaſed in Derbyſhire. The breed of the county is nothing remarkable, but has been improved by mixtures with the Leiceſterſhire kinds. Few ſheep are kept on the farms; what are kept, the farmers chiefly purchaſe in the neighbouring counties. Each common or waſte maintains a few; but on Delamere foreſt great numbers are kept, which are ſmall, and of a fine-wooled kind. This breed has been lately improved by croſſes with

with the Herefordſhire. The breed of hogs uſually kept is a mixture between the long and ſhort-eared.

Woods and Timber.—Cheſhire is in general a very woody county. It is probably owing to this circumſtance, and to the large ſupply of hides from the manufacturing towns of Lancaſhire, that great numbers of tanners are ſettled in it, particularly in the middle and north parts. Beſides the hides of cattle ſlaughtered at home, they have a large ſupply from Ireland. The oak bark, in order to prepare it for uſe, was formerly univerſally, and is now by many tanners, ground down by a heavy ſtone wheel turned by a horſe. Inſtead of this, ſeveral now uſe caſt-iron cylinders, between which the bark is paſſed, and is thus more completely ground with leſs labour. Some experiments were lately made by an ingenious tanner in Aſhley with the twigs and ends of the boughs of oak as a ſubſtitute for the bark. His ſucceſs has been ſuch as to convince him that leather may be tanned with them almoſt equally well as with the bark. The leather prepared in Cheſhire is principally conſumed in the circumjacent parts, and very little of it is exported. Beſides the common uſe of it in ſhoes, boots, ſaddlery, &c. a very conſiderable quantity is employed in the machinery of the cotton manufactory, for ſtraps, coverings for the rollers, &c.

Some of the largeſt oaks in the kingdom grow in Lord Stamford's park at Dunham. There are ſingle trees elſewhere larger than any here, but no where ſo many large trees together. At Morley near Wilmſlow a remarkable oak was felled in ſpring 1793. The principal trunk roſe above ſix yards from the ground, and there gave off four large branches at nearly equal diſtances, each itſelf being a large tree. All together contained about 470 feet of timber. The trunk immediately

ately above the ground was 41 feet in circumference; at four yards height, 32 feet. It was hollow, and its cavity would eaſily admit ſix or eight people.

MINERALS.

The mineral product for which Cheſhire is moſt remarkable is its ſalt, with which it is ſtored in inexhauſtible quantities. The particulars reſpecting this article will hereafter be mentioned more minutely. It is enough here to obſerve, that it is found in the two ſtates of ſolid rock, and brine ſprings. The firſt is obtained only at Northwich, where large quantities are raiſed, part of which is refined on the ſpot, and part exported in its rough ſtate. Brine ſprings are met with in ſeveral places in the county, and the ſalt is procured from them by boiling. The average quantity of ſalt made annually in Cheſhire is upwards of 74,000 tons, of which, as well as of the unrefined rock ſalt, a great proportion is exported abroad, forming a very beneficial article of commerce. That conſumed at home pays a large ſum to the public revenue.

Coals are procured in conſiderable quantity in the north-eaſtern part of the county near Poynton. They are ſmall and of a ſoldering quality. Some are alſo got in the hundred of Wirrall.

Quarries of ſtone of various kinds are wrought in different parts. Slate and flags are got at Kerridge on the hills near Macclesfield. Stone for building is procured from the eaſtern hills, alſo at Millington near Bucklow-hill, at Hill-cliff near Warrington, at Heſswell near Parkgate, and in many other places. It has been remarked, that almoſt every village on the north ſide of Cheſhire is ſituated upon a bed of red

red rock, which in many parts lies bare. Mill-ſtones are got on Mole-cop, which are ſent to various parts of the country.

At Newbold Aſtbury, about three miles from Congleton, at the edge of Mole-cop, large quantities of lime-ſtone are dug. It is burned upon the ſpot, the coal for the purpoſe being procured from Staffordſhire, at the diſtance of about three miles. This lime-ſtone is heavier than that of Buxton, and when burnt has more of a grey aſh colour. It has lately come into very general uſe as a manure, and many farmers upon compariſon prefer it to the Buxton lime. It is longer in breaking down, but ſwells more, and is thought to be more durable in effect. Its price is about 5½d. per buſhel.

About five miles to the north-weſt of Macclesfield is an elevated tract of ground called Alderley-edge. Some ſtone uſed for building and other purpoſes is got here; and both copper and lead ore have been found, the former in pretty conſiderable quantity. The ore lies near to the ſurface, but is of too poor a quality to pay the expence of getting and ſmelting. It was attempted to be worked many years ago, and the attempt was not long ſince renewed, but without ſucceſs.

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL STATE.

This county is one of thoſe which in the time of the Romans was inhabited by the people named *Cornavii*. By the Saxons it was termed *Ceſtreſcyre*; and its modern appellation is the *County Palatine* of Cheſter. The reaſon of the title *Palatine* was, that the earls of Cheſter enjoyed palatine juriſdiction; that is, the inhabitants were tenants in chief to them alone, and they to the king. The courts of law were held in their name; and they had a ſort of miniature parliament at which

which their great tenants or barons, and their vaſſals, attended. The ſucceſſion of earls becoming extinct in the reign of Henry III. the king made his eldeſt ſon earl of Cheſter, which title has ever ſince been attached to the eldeſt ſons of the crown.

The juriſdiction of the county palatine extends as well over the county of the city of Cheſter, as over the county of Cheſter. The Chief Juſtice of Cheſter has the ſame juriſdiction over the courts of the city, as the Chief Juſtice of the King's Bench has over the different courts of the kingdom at large; and iſſues writs of latitat and certiorari into the city, the latter of which writs removes indictments and plaints into the county-palatine court before the Chief Juſtice. His determinations have the ſame weight and effect as thoſe of the Chief Juſtice of the King's Bench, and are impeachable only in the ſame way. The exchequer court of the county-palatine is a court of equity; and the decrees of the chamberlain or his vice-chamberlain are only ſubject to reviſion and appeal in the Houſe of Lords. In this court is alſo a Baron, anſwering to the Remembrancer in the Court of Exchequer above; alſo a Seal-keeper, Filazer, Examiner, Cryer, &c. Its ſittings, which were till lately held twice a year, are now only held once.

Cheſhire is divided into ſeven hundreds, excluſive of the city of Cheſter, which is a county of itſelf. It contains one city and 11 market towns; ſends four members to parliament; pays ſeven parts out of 513 of the Engliſh land-tax, and furniſhes 560 men to the national militia. Each hundred has two ſubdiviſions, for each of which there are two high conſtables. The following is a liſt of townſhips, vills, and places contained in each hundred.

MACCLESFIELD *Hundred.*

Bredbury,
Brinnington,
Bromhall,
Cheadle,
Duckinfield,
Diſley and Standley,
Etchels,
Godley,
Hyde,
Hatterſley,
Hollinworth,
Marple,
Matley,
Mottram, in Longdendale,
Norbury,
Northenden,
Newton,
Offerton,
Romiley,
Stayley,
Stockport,
Tintwiſtle,
Taxall,
Torkington,
Werneth,
Yeardley cum Whaley,
Adlington,
Alderley Superior,
Alderley Inferior,
Birtles,
Bollin Fee,
Bollington,
Boſley,
Butley cum Newton,
Capeſthorne,
Chelford cum Old Withington,
Chorley,
Eaton,
Falibroome,
Gawſworth,
Hurdsfield,
Henbury cum Pexall,
Kettleſhulme,
Marton,
Macclesfield,
Mottram Andrew,
Poynton,
Pownall Fee,
Preſtbury,
Pott Shrigley,
Rainow,
Rode, *vulgo* North Rode,
Snelſon,
Sutton Downes cum Wincle,
Siddington,
Somerford Booth,
Tytherington,
Upton,
Warford Magna,
Withington Inferior.

BUCKLOW *Hundred.*

Agden,
Altrincham,
Aſhley,
Aſhton ſuper Merſey,
Baguley,
Bexton,
Bollington,
Bowden,
Carrington,
Cogſhul,
Dunham Maſſey,
Hale,
Knutsford Inferior,
Knutsford Superior,
Legh, *vulgo* High Legh,
Marſton,

Marſton,
Marthall, cum Little Warford,
Mere,
Millington,
Mobberly,
Ollerton,
Partington,
Peover Superior,
Peover Inferior,
Pickmeir,
Plumbley,
Roſthern,
Sale,
Tabley Superior,
Tabley Inferior,
Tatton,
Timperley,
Toft,
Warburton,
Wincham,
Acton Grange,
Aſton juxta Sutton,
Aſton Grange,
Aſton juxta Budworth,
Anderton,
Barnton,
Batherton,
Budworth, *vulgo* Great Budworth,
Clifton, *alias* Rock Savage,
Cumberbach,
Dareſbury,
Dutton,
Groppenhall,
Halton,
Hatton,
Hull and Appleton,
Kekewick,
Lymme,
Little Leigh,
Latchford,
Marbury,
Middleton Grange,
Moore,
Newton prope Dareſbury,
Norton,
Preſton,
Runcorn,
Stockham,
Stretton,
Sutton,
Thelwall,
Walton Inferior,
Walton Superior,
Weſton,
Whitley Inferior,
Whitley Superior.

Northwich *Hundred.*

Artclid,
Buglawton,
Bradwell,
Brereton cum Smethwick,
Congleton,
Cotton,
Davenport,
Elton,
Gooſtrey cum Barnſhaw,
Hulme and Walfield,
Church Hulme,
Church Lawton,
Kermincham,
Moreton cum Alcomlow,
Moſebarrow cum Parme,
Moſton,
Newbold Aſtbury,
Odd Rode,
Smallwood,
Summerford cum Radnor,
Sandbach,
Sproſton,
Swettenham,

Swettenham,
Twemlow,
Tetton,
Warminſham,
Weelock,
Allowſtock,
Byley cum Yatehouſe,
Birches,
Boſtock,
Clive,
Cranage,
Croxton,
Davenham,
Eyton prope Davenham,
Hulſe,
Lach Dennis,
Lees,
Leftwich,
Loſtock Gralam,
Kinderton cum Hulme,
Middlewich,
Minſhull Vernon,
Moulton,
Newhall,
Newton,
Northwich,
Occleſton,
Nether Peover,
Ravenſcroft,
Rudheath Lordſhip,
Shipbrooke,
Shurlach cum Bradford,
Stanthorne,
Stubs and Lach,
Sutton,
Wharton,
Whatcroft,
Witton cum Twambroke,
Wimboldſley.

Eddisbury *Hundred.*

Alpraham,
Beeſton,
Bunbury,
Budworth,
Calveley,
Eaton cum Ruſhton,
Heighton,
Idenſhall,
Merton,
Over cum Darnhall,
Oulton Lowe,
Peckforton,
Ridley,
Spurſtow,
Tarporley,
Tiverton,
Tilſton Fernal,
Utkinton,
Wardle,
Weever,
Wettenhall,
Alvanley,
Aſhton,
Acton,
Burton,
Bridge Trafford,
Barrow Magna,
Barrow Parva,
Bruen Stapleford,
Cuddington,
Crowton,
Clotton Hoofield,
Caſtle Northwich,
Dunham,
Duddon,
Elton,
Frodſham,
Hapsford,
Helſby,
Horton cum Peele,
Hockenhull,
Hartford,
Kelſall,

Kelfall,
Ince,
Kingfley,
Manley,
Mouldfworth,
Newton,
Norley,
Oulton, *alias* Ouſton,
Tarvin,
Thornton,
Wallerſcoat,
Waverham cum Milton,
Walaton, *alias* Willington,
Wimbolds Trafford,
Winnington.

Namptwich *Hundred.*

Acton,
Alſager,
Alvanderſton,
Aſton juxta Mondrum,
Auſterton,
Baddington,
Barthomley,
Betchton,
Brindley,
Burland,
Cholmondeſton,
Church Coppenhall,
Monks Coppenhall,
Crewe,
Edlaſton,
Faddiley,
Haſlington,
Haſſall,
Henhull,
Hurleſton,
Leighton,
Minſhull,
Namptwich,
Poole,
Stoake,
Willaſton,
Wiſtaſton,
Worleſton,
Wolſtanwood,
Audlem,
Baddiley,
Bridgemere,
Basford,
Batherton,
Blackenhall,
Bromhall,
Buerton,
Checkley cum Wrinehill,
Chorley,
Chorlton,
Coole Pilate,
Dodcot cum Wilkeſley,
Dodington,
Hankilow,
Hatherton,
Hough,
Hunſterſton,
Lea,
Marbury cum Quoiſley,
Newhall,
Norbury,
Rope,
Shavington cum Greſty,
Sound,
Stapeley,
Titley,
Walgherton,
Weſton,
Wybunbury,
Wireſwall,
Wrenbury,
Woodcott..

Broxton *Hundred.*

Aldford,
Alderſey,
Agden,
Barton,
Bulkeley,
Burwardſley,
Broxton,
Bickley,
Bickerton,
Bradley,
Chowley,
Coddington,
Chidlow,
Cuddington,
Chorlton,
Church Shocklach,
Caldecot,
Cholmondeley,
Crewe,
Carden,
Clutton,
Edge,
Edgerley,
Egerton,
Farndon,
Grafton,
Handley,
Hampton,
Horton,
Harthill,
Duckington,
Larckton,
Macefen,
Malpas,
Newton juxta Malpas,
Old Caſtle,
Overton,
Stockton,
Shocklach Oviat,
Stretton,
Tuſhingham cum Grindley,
Tilſton,
Wigland,
Wighalgh,
Boughton,
Buerton,
Bach,
Coghull,
Chriſtleton Parva,
Church Chriſtleton,
Row Chriſtleton,
Claverton,
Cotton,
Cotton Edmunds,
Churton Heath,
Dodleſton,
Eccleſton,
Eaton,
Golborn David,
Golborn Bellow,
Hoole,
Huxley,
Hatton,
Kinnerton,
Lea and Newbold,
Lach,
Moſton,
Marlſton,
Newton juxta Suxton,
Newton juxta Tattenhall,
Pickton,
Poulton,
Pulford,
Sutton,
Stapleford,
Saighton,
Trafford,
Tattenhall,
Upton,
Wervin,
Waverton.

WIRRALL *Hundred.*

Backford,
Bromborow,
Burton,
Blacon cum Crabhall,
Capenhurſt,
Childer Thornton,
Croughton,
Chorlton,
Eaſtham cum Plimyard,
Hooton cum Ranacre,
Lea,
Ledſham,
Leighton,
Mollington Baniſter,
Mollington Torrett,
Neſſe,
Neſton Magna,
Neſton Parva cum Hargreave,
Poole Superior,
Poole Inferior,
Puddington,
Raby,
Rough Shotwick,
Saughall Magna cum Woodbank,
Saughall Parva,
Shotwick,
Stanney Magna,
Stanney Parva,
Stoake,
Sutton Magna,
Sutton Parva,
Thornton Mayes,
Whitby,
Willaſton,
Arrow,
Brimſtage,
Bebbington Superior,
Bebbington Inferior,
Barnſton,
Bidſton cum Liſcard,
Caldey Magna, or Grange,
Caldey Parva,
Claughton cum Grange,
Frankby,
Greaſby,
Gayton,
Heſwall cum Oldfield,
Irby,
Knoctorum,
Kirkby cum Wallaſey,
Liſcard,
Landican,
Moreton,
Meols Magna,
Meols Parva,
Newton cum Larton,
Oxton,
Poulton cum Seacombe,
Poulton cum Spittle,
Prenton,
Penneſby,
Saughall Maſſie,
Storeton,
Thurſtaſton,
Thingwall,
Tranmore,
Upton,
Weſtkirby.
Woodchurch.

In the aſſeſſments for county rates, when the whole ſum to be raiſed is £.1000 the following proportions are levied on each hundred :

Mac-

	£.	s.	d.
Macclesfield Hundred, - - - - - -	166	9	2
Bucklow ditto, - - - - - - -	141	15	5
Northwich ditto, - - - - - - -	128	18	4
Eddiſbury ditto, - - - - - - -	108	9	2
Namptwich ditto, - - - - - - -	168	14	7
Broxton ditto, - - - - - - - -	150	0	5
Wirrall ditto, - - - - - - - -	135	12	11

ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISION.

The county of Cheſter is contained within the dioceſe of the ſame name, which was erected into a biſhopric by Henry VIII. in the year 1541, and belongs to the province of York. It contains two archdeaconries, thoſe of Cheſter and Richmond. Cheſhire is entirely within the former. It is ſubdivided into the following deanries and pariſhes:

Deanry *of* Chester.

Pariſh Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
St. Mary on the Hill, Cheſter, R.	- - -	M. Wilbraham.
St. Oſwald, Cheſter, V.	- - -	D. and Ch. of Cheſter.
	Bruera, or Church on the Heath,	
St. Peter, Cheſter, perp. cur.	- - -	B. of Cheſter.
Trinity Cheſter, R.	- - -	E. of Derby.
	St. Bridget's Cheſter, R.	B. of Cheſter.
	St. John Baptiſt, Cheſter, V.	T. Adams, Eſq.

Little

Parish Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
	Little St. John's, Chester, cur.	Corp. of Chester.
	St. Martin, Chester, R.	B. of Chester.
	St. Michael, Chester, cur. p.	Ditto.
	St. Olave, Chester, cur.	Ditto.
Barrow, R.	- - -	E. Cholmondeley.
Christleton, R.	- - -	Sir R. Mostyn.
Dodleston, R.	- - -	D. and Ch. Chester.
Eccleston, R.	- - -	Ld. Grosvenor.
Plenisto, perp. cur.	- - -	Sir H. Bridgman.
Pulford, R.	- - -	Sir P. Warburton.
Tarvin, V.	- - -	Preb. of Tarvin in Litchf. Cath.
	Hargrave,	Trustees.
Thornton, R.	- - -	T. Hill, Esq.
Tarporley, R.	- - -	J. Arden, Esq.
Waverton, R.	- - -	Bishop of Chester.
	Farndon, P.	Ld. Grosvenor.
	Gilden Sutton, cur. p.	Sir J. Stanley.
	Ince, p.	R. Hill Waring, Esq.

DEANRY *of* FRODSHAM.

Ashton upon Mersey, R.	- - -	Rev. W. Johnson.
Bowden, V.	- - -	B. of Chester.
	Carrington,	E. of Stamford.
	Ringey,	J. Crewe, Esq.
Budworth, V.	- - -	Christ Ch. Oxon.
	Little Leigh,	V. of Budworth.

Nether

Parish Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
	Nether Peover,	Sir J. Fl. Leyceſter.
	Nether Whitley, dom.	Sir J. Chetwode.
	Whitton P. Northwich,	Sir J. F. Leyceſter.
Frodſham, V.	- - -	Chriſt Ch. Oxon.
	Alvandley,	J. Arden, Eſq.
Grappenhall, R.	- - -	Rev. P. Halſtead.
	Latchford,	R. of Grappenhall.
Lymme, R. (two mediеties)	- - -	Sir P. Warburton.
	- - -	Egerton Leigh.
	Warburton, ſupplied by the Rector of one mediety,	
Runcorn, V.	- - -	Chriſt Ch. Oxon.
	Aſton,	H. Harvey Aſton, Eſq.
	Dareſbury, P.	
	Halton,	J. Cheſhyre, Eſq.
	Thelwall, P.	E. Pickering, Eſq.
Roſthern, V.	- - -	Ld. Vernon.
	High Leigh, (domeſt.)	
	Knutsford, V.	Lords of four adjacent manors.
	Over Peover,	Sir H. Mainwaring.
Waverham, V.	- - -	B. of Cheſter.
Whitegate, R.	- - -	Mr. Cholmondeley.

DEANRY *of* MACCLESFIELD.

Alderley, R.	- - -	G. Hartley, Eſq.
Cheadle, R.	- - -	S. Buck, Eſq.
Gawſworth, R.	- - -	Mrs. Parrott.

Mob-

Pariſh Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
Mobberley, R.	- - -	T. Mallory.
Mottram, R.	- - -	B. of Cheſter.
	Woodhead,	Ditto.
Northenden, R.	- - -	D. and Ch. Cheſter.
Preſtbury, V.	- - -	C. Legh, Eſq.
	Adlington, dom.	Mrs. Legh.
	Boſley, P.	V. of Preſtbury.
	Capeſthorn, C.	D. Davenport, Eſq.
	Chelford, P.	Mr. Parker.
	Foreſt Chap.	E. of Derby.
	Macclesfield, P.	Mayor of Macclesfield.
	Chriſt Church, Macclesfield,	W. Roe, Eſq.
	Marton,	D. Davenport, Eſq.
	Pott Chap.	P. Downes, Eſq.
	Poynton,	Sir G. Warren.
	Rainow,	V. of Preſtbury.
	Wincle,	Ditto.
	Saltersford,	Ditto.
	Siddington.	D. Davenport, Eſq.
Stockport, R.	- - -	Mary Preſcott.
	Chadkirk,	R. of Stockport.
	Diſley,	T. Legh, Eſq.
	Norbury,	Ditto.
	Marple,	R. of Stockport.
	St. Peter, Stockport,	Rev. H. O. Wright.
Taxall, R.	- - -	Rev. J. Swain.
Wilmſlow, R.	- - -	Gilb. Berresford, Eſq.

Deanry *of* Malban Wich, *alias* Namptwich.

Pariſh Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
Acton, V.	- - -	Wilbrah. Tollemache, Eſq.
	Burleydam,	Sir R. S. Cotton.
	Wrenbury,	V. of Acton.
Audlem, R.	- - -	Rev. W. Wickſted.
Baddiley, R.	- - -	Sir H. Mainwaring.
Barthumley, R.	- - -	E. Mainwaring, Eſq.
	Haſlington,	Sir T. Broughton.
Coppenhall, R.	- - -	B. of Litchf. and Cov.
	Church Minſhull, P.	T. Brooke, Eſq.
Namptwich, R.	- - -	J. Crewe, Eſq.
Wibunbury, V.	- - -	B. of Litchf. and Cov.
Wiſtaſton, R.	- - -	P. Walthall, Eſq.
	Bunbury, cur.	Comp. of Haberdaſhers, London.
	Burwardſley, chap. to Bunbury,	
	Marbury, ſupplied by the R. of Whitchurch,	

Deanry *of* Malpas.

Aldford, R.	- - -	Ld. Groſvenor.
Malpas, (two portions)	- - -	W. Drake, Eſq.
Tattenhall, R.	- - -	B. of Cheſter.
Tylſton, R.	- - -	Ld. Cholmondeley.

Deanry *of* Bangor.

Pariſh Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
Coddington, R.	- - -	D. and Ch. Cheſter.
Handley, R.	- - -	Ditto.
	Harthill, cur. p.	W. Drake, Eſq.
	Shocklach, p.	T. Puleſton, Eſq.

Deanry *of* Middlewich.

Aſtbury, R.		P. Brooke, Eſq.
	Congleton,	Corp. of Congleton.
	Little Budworth, cur. p.	B. of Cheſter.
Brereton, R.	- - -	Sir Liſter Holt.
Davenham, R.	- - -	T. Brock, Eſq.
Sandbach, V.	- - -	Mary Haddon.
	Gooſtrey, ch. p. Holms-chapel,	V. of Sandbach.
Swetenham, R.	- - -	Ab. Painter.
Warmingham, R.	- - -	Ph. Egerton, Eſq.
Lawton, R.	- - -	J. Lawton, Eſq.
Middlewich, V.	- - -	If. Wood, Eſq.
Over, V.	- - -	B. of Cheſter.
	Wetenhall, p.	V. of Over.
Whitegate, *alias* New-church, V.	- - -	Mr. Cholmondeley.

Deanry *of* Wirrall.

Bebington, R	- - -	Rev. S. Jackſon.
Backford, V.	- - -	B. of Cheſter.
Eaſtham, V.	- - -	D. and Ch. Cheſter.

Heſwall,

Pariſh Churches.	Chapels, &c.	Patrons.
Heſwall, R.	- - -	R. Davenport, Eſq.
Weſt Kirkby, R.	- - -	D. and Ch. Cheſter.
Neſton, V.	- - -	Ditto.
Woodchurch, R.	- - -	—— Crookhall.
Thurſtaſton, R.	- - -	D. and Ch. Cheſter.
Walliſey, R. Med.	- - -	B. of Cheſter.
	Biditon cum Ford,	Ditto.
	Birkenhead, Ch. to Bidſton,	R. P. Price, Eſq.
	Bromborow,	D. and Ch. Cheſter.
	Burton, cur.	Maſt. of Hoſp. of St. John Bapt. Litchf.
	Over Church in Upton, cur.	Rev. S. Jackſon.
	Shotwick, cur.	D. and Ch. Cheſter.
	Stoke, cur.	Sir T. C. Bunbury.



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III.—DERBYSHIRE *in General.**

DERBYSHIRE is bounded to the north by Yorkſhire and part of Cheſhire, the river Etherow being its ſeparation from the latter; to the weſt, by Cheſhire and Staffordſhire, its limits almoſt all the way being the Goyt, and the Dove and Trent; to the ſouth and ſouth-eaſt by Leiceſterſhire; and to the eaſt by Nottinghamſhire. It is ſituated nearly in the middle of the iſland, at an equal diſtance from the eaſt and weſt ſeas. Its principal extent is almoſt directly from north to ſouth, in which direction it meaſures about 55 miles. Its greateſt breadth is at the northern extremity, where it meaſures about 33 miles, from which it contracts, though irregularly, on advancing towards the ſouthern, where it is very narrow. A portion of this extremity is inſulated by Leiceſterſhire. The county is eſtimated to contain 720,640 acres.

Face of the Country.—A conſiderable part of the county is diſtinguiſhed from the reſt by being a mountainous tract, and one of the moſt celebrated of the kind in England. From nearly the middle of Derbyſhire, that chain of hills ariſes, which ſtretching northwards, is continued in a greater or leſs breadth quite to the borders of Scotland, and forms a natural boundary between the eaſt and weſt ſides of the northern part of the kingdom. Its courſe in this county is inclining a little to the weſt. It ſpreads as it advances northerly, and at length fills up the whole of the north-weſt angle, alſo overflowing a little, as it were, towards the eaſtern parts. The hills are at firſt of ſmall eleva-

* For the general and particular accounts of Derbyſhire we are much indebted to the Rev. Mr. Pilkington's accurate and valuable hiſtory of that county.

tion;

tion; but being in their progreſs piled upon one another, they form very elevated ground in the tract called the *High Peak*, though without any eminences which can rank among the loftieſt mountains even of this iſland. The two moſt diſtinguiſhed heights in the Peak are Ax-edge on the limits of the county near Buxton, and Kinder-ſcout, in the centre of the north-weſt angle. The former was calculated by Mr. Whitehurſt to be about 2100 feet higher than the town of Derby, and 1000 feet above the valley in which Buxton-hall ſtands. Kinder-ſcout has not been meaſured; but as it overlooks all the ſurrounding eminences, it is ſuppoſed to have a ſtill greater elevation. The ſuperior height of theſe two points is further confirmed by the obſervation that clouds reſt on them when they paſs over the intermediate high grounds.

The High Peak is a region of bleak barren heights and long-extended moors, interſperſed with deep narrow vallies, through which the ſmall ſtreams take their courſe. Some of theſe offer agreeable proſpects of fertility; but on the whole, the tract is one of the leaſt pleaſing, being deſtitute of moſt of the romantic beauties of other mountainous countries. It contains ſeveral natural curioſities, ſuch as deep caverns and apertures in the ground, which have had their full ſhare of admiration under the name of the *Wonders of the Peak:* they will hereafter be more particularly mentioned. The tract called the *Low Peak*, lying near the centre of the county, likewiſe contains hills of various height and extent, affording large proſpects into the neighbouring counties. The eaſt ſide of the county has alſo a high ridge extending from Hardwick in a northern direction to the Yorkſhire border. The ſouthern part of Derbyſhire is for the moſt part a pleaſant and fertile country, not diſtinguiſhed in its appearance from the other midland counties.

The

The banks of the Trent are a range of low meadows, ſubject to inundations.

RIVERS.

The principal river of this county is the *Derwent*. It riſes from the junction of various rills out of the High Peak, which appear in one ſtream near Hatherſage. Taking a ſouthern courſe a little inclining to the eaſt, it paſſes through Chatſworth park, below which it receives the *Wye* coming down from Buxton and Bakewell. It flows through the romantic dale of Matlock, and at length reaches Derby, having ſo far divided the county into an eaſtern and weſtern part nearly equal in dimenſions. From Derby it ſuddenly turns more to the eaſt, and mixes with the Trent on the Leiceſterſhire border near Wilne. It is made navigable from Derby to the Trent. The current of the Derwent is rapid, and the temperature of its waters has been obſerved to be warmer than that of rivers in general, which may be aſcribed to the mixture of warm ſprings. It frequently in the ſummer raiſes the thermometer to 66 degrees.

The *Dove*, riſing a little to the ſouth of Buxton, on the Staffordſhire limit, holds a courſe nearly parallel to the Derwent, ſerving for the boundary of the two counties all the way to its junction with the Trent a little below Burton. In its tract it paſſes through the very romantic Dove dale. It is augmented by many little ſtreams on the ſouth-weſtern ſide of Derbyſhire.

The *Trent* itſelf holds but a ſhort part of its courſe through this county. Coming out of Staffordſhire, it reaches the border of Derbyſhire at its ſouth-weſtern point. After making the boundary for ſome miles,

miles, at its junction with the Dove it enters the county, and paſſing from weſt to eaſt acroſs its narroweſt part, it reaches the Leiceſterſhire border. It there becomes again the boundary, till it enters Nottinghamſhire. It is navigable during all this courſe.

The *Errewaſh*, riſing about the middle of the eaſtern border, runs ſouthward, forming the boundary between Derbyſhire and Nottinghamſhire till its junction with the Trent.

The *Rother*, taking its riſe to the ſouth of Cheſterfield, paſſes that town, and holds a north-eaſtern courſe till it enters Yorkſhire.

CLIMATE.

The mountainous part of Derbyſhire is diſtinguiſhed from the reſt by the greater quantity of rain which falls in it. At Chatſworth, which is by no means the higheſt part, about 33 inches of rain have been found to fall annually at a medium. The High Peak is peculiarly liable to very violent ſtorms, in which the rain deſcends in torrents, ſo as frequently to occaſion great ravages in the lands: it is alſo ſubject to very high winds. Theſe cauſes, together with the elevation of the country, render it cold; ſo that vegetation is backward and unkindly. Some kinds of grain will not grow at all in the Peak, and others ſeldom ripen till very late in the year. The atmoſphere is, however, pure and healthful, and the higher ſituations are generally free from epidemic diſeaſes, though agues and fevers ſometimes prevail in the vallies. One diſeaſe is, however, endemic in theſe parts, and even as far ſouth as Derby, which is the bronchocele or Derby-neck: it is an enlargement of the glands of the throat, and is a degree of the ſame diſeaſe that is known in the Alps, and in ſome other mountainous tracts.

SOIL.

SOIL.

The moſt common ſoil in Derbyſhire is a reddiſh clay or marl. The ſouthern part of this county is in general compoſed of it, with little or no ſtone beneath the ſurface. This ſoil alſo appears on the north-weſt ſide of the county. Its quality is very various in different ſituations, in ſome containing much calcareous earth, in others not at all effervеſcing with acids. Its colouring principle is iron. That large tract of country which produces coal, is covered with a clay of various colours, black, grey, brown, and yellow; eſpecially the laſt. It is in ſome places mixed with a large proportion of ſand. This kind of ſoil is alſo found in ſome parts where grit-ſtone is met with; but there it is frequently of a black colour and bituminous quality. On the eaſt moor, and in the northern extremity of the county, are large tracts of land conſiſting of this ſoil. That in the lime-ſtone country on the north-eaſt ſide is of a brown colour and looſer texture. Small tracts of gravel or ſand are interſperſed through the marl diſtrict. In the north part of the county are peat bogs, ſome upon the higheſt mountains, in which trees have been found nearly perfect. The ſoil in the vallies near the banks of the larger rivers is very different from that of the adjacent parts, and has been evidently altered by the depoſitions from inundations.

PRODUCE.

The ſouthern parts of this country are nearly equally divided between paſture and tillage. The banks of the Dove are chiefly occupied by dairy farms. On the eaſtern ſide of the county, tillage chiefly prevails. The midland tracts have a mixture of paſture and arable according to the ſoil and ſituation, and large improvements are carrying on upon the moors

moors of this diſtrict. In the High Peak the ground is chiefly devoted to the raiſing and feeding of cattle, very little corn beſides black oats being grown. On the whole, Derbyſhire is more of a grazing and dairying than a corn country. The grain principally cultivated is barley, of which much is grown for the ſupply of the breweries at Burton. Of the whole produce, calculated at 5000 quarters annually, about half is ſuppoſed to be exported to the neighbouring counties, ſome in the ſtate of malt. The produce of wheat is ſcarcely equal to the conſumption; that of beans and oats about anſwers the home demand. Of cheeſe, nearly 2000 tons are thought to be annually exported to London and ſeveral ſea-ports on the eaſt coaſt. Its quality is mild, and its taſte reſembles the Glouceſterſhire.

An uncommon ſpecies of culture, in which about 200 acres of this county are employed, is that of *camomile*. A loamy ſoil is choſen for the purpoſe, in which, after proper preparation, ſlips from the roots of an old plantation are ſet about the end of March. The collection of the flowers begins in September, and continues in ſucceſſion till ſtopt by the froſts. The plants uſually ſtand three years, of which the firſt affords the ſmalleſt, the ſecond the beſt and largeſt produce. A dry year is moſt favourable to them. When the flowers are gathered, they are carefully dried in a kiln or on a heated floor, packed in bags, and ſold to perſons in the neighbourhood, who ſend moſt of them to the druggiſts in London. The produce and price are ſubject to great variation; but on an average the former may be reckoned at four cwt. an acre, the latter at four pounds per cwt.

The horſes of Derbyſhire are of very different breeds in the ſouthern and northern parts. In the former they are of the ſtrong and heavy kind;

kind; but in the latter, light and ſlender. They are much employed in the Peak for carrying lime-ſtone on their backs, and ſhow great agility in aſcending and deſcending the ſteep mountains.

The neat cattle are almoſt univerſally horned, and rather large and handſome. The cows are diſtinguiſhed for their beautiful ſhapes, and have the property of becoming fat in a ſhort time. Their yield of milk is but moderate. Notwithſtanding the numbers bred here, many are brought every year from Yorkſhire and Lancaſhire, and ſold to the Derbyſhire graziers.

The ſheep on the Leiceſterſhire border reſemble thoſe of that county in weight and ſize. They diminiſh on proceeding northwards; and in the High Peak weigh from 14 to 17 pounds per quarter, thoſe on grit-ſtone land being three pounds lighter than thoſe on lime-ſtone. But the difference in their fleeces is more remarkable, thoſe of the grit-ſtone ſheep being much lighter and thinner than of the others. There are now few or no goats kept in Derbyſhire, though once they were common. Other animals, tame and wild, offer nothing remarkable.

SUBTERRANEOUS GEOGRAPHY.

This may in general be conſidered as dividing the county into the three diſtinctions of lime-ſtone, coal, and grit-ſtone land.

Lime-ſtone.—The moſt extenſive tract of this land is ſituated on the north-weſt ſide of the county. Its northern extremity is at Caſtleton: its weſtern line runs along the weſt ſide of Peak Foreſt to Buxton, thence, keeping along the eaſt ſide of Ax-edge, it proceeds to the head of the Dove, and follows the boundary of the counties about 12 miles, and

and croſſing the river, extends a few miles into Staffordſhire. The moſt ſouthern point in which it appears in Derbyſhire is about two miles north of Aſhborne. Hence, its limit runs eaſtward in a line by Wirkſworth as far as Matlock: its courſe then points northward, extending on the eaſt ſide of Winſter, Bakewell, Stony-Middleton, and Bradwell, to its termination in the valley of Edale. Beſides this large tract of lime-ſtone, there is a ſmaller one on the eaſt ſide of the county, forming the ridge already mentioned from near Hardwick, through Bolſover and Barlborough to the border of the county. This lime-ſtone tract ſpreads eaſtwards into Nottinghamſhire, and northwards, quite through Yorkſhire, with little interruption, as far as Tinmouth-caſtle in Northumberland. There are likewiſe ſeveral detached beds of lime-ſtone in other parts of Derbyſhire, but none exceeding two miles in length or breadth.

Coal.—The principal coal country begins a little north-eaſt of Derby, at Stanton, Dale, and Morley. It runs on the weſt ſide of Morley and Belper, and appears again at Lea, Aſhover pariſh, Dronfield pariſh, and ſo to the Yorkſhire border. This tract of coal is ſaid to extend, under the name of the *great northern rake*, quite to the border of Scotland, being only interrupted by a lime-ſtone bed of three miles in breadth near Ferrybridge in Yorkſhire. Coal has alſo been found at Chinley hills near Chapel-le-frith, in the neighbourhood of Buxton, and at various places in the ſouthern extremity of the county.

Grit-ſtone.—This occupies a much greater extent than the two former diviſions, particularly the north and north-weſt extremity of the county, and the tract lying between the principal beds of coal and lime-ſtone, of which diſtrict the eaſt moor forms the moſt conſiderable part. This

This laſt extends, with various breadth, almoſt as far ſouth as Derby. Small beds of grit-ſtone appear alſo in a few other parts.

Gypſum or *Plaſter-ſtone*.—This ſubſtance, which is found in nearly a ſtrait line acroſs the kingdom, appears in Derbyſhire at ſeveral places, particularly at Chellaſton, Aſton, and Elvaſton, three contiguous pariſhes, about five miles ſouth-eaſt of Derby. It lies about eight yards beneath the ſurface, and is found, not in regular layers, but in large lumps or blocks indented together, but which may be eaſily ſeparated. The thickneſs of the beds is from two to four yards.

It has been already obſerved, that a conſiderable tract in the ſouthern part contains no beds of ſtone of whatever kind near the ſurface. If a line be drawn from Aſhborne through Derby to the Nottinghamſhire border, it will have ſuch a tract to the ſouth, with the exception of a few places mentioned above.

CAVERNS AND SUBTERRANEOUS PASSAGES.

The ſtrata of different kinds of ſtone, or *meaſures* as they are here termed, differ in reſpect to arrangement, thickneſs, and inclination, in the ſeveral parts of the mountainous tracts of Derbyſhire. It often happens that theſe meaſures are broken, in conſequence of which clefts and chaſms are formed in the earth. Theſe are extremely various in figure and ſize, and are more frequent in ſome parts than in others. The moſt remarkable which has been diſcovered in the clefts of the lime-ſtone, is ſituated at Caſtleton, and known by the name of

Peak's-hole.—It is ſituated in a deep and narrow receſs of the valley in which the town ſtands. On each ſide and near the end of this receſs,

ceſs, two large faces of rock are ſeen riſing to a great height. At the foot of the rock the mouth of the cavern opens: it is about 14 yards high and 40 wide; the arch at the entrance is regularly formed, and extends nearly 300 feet in a direct line: this part is tolerably light, and is inhabited by a number of poor people who manufacture pack-thread. They have built ſmall dwellings in this ſpacious vault, where they are ſheltered from the extremes both of heat and cold. Beyond the firſt turning the ground gently declines, and the path is made wet by droppings from the roof. At the diſtance of 130 yards from the entrance, all further progreſs was formerly ſtopped by a projection of the rock, but a paſſage is now opened through it. The cavern, which has been gradually contracting, appears about 20 yards from hence to be entirely cloſed; but on a near approach, a low paſſage under the rock, almoſt full of water, is diſcovered. The opening juſt admits a ſmall boat, but the paſſenger muſt lie almoſt flat while it is puſhed under the rock. On landing, he finds himſelf in a cavern more ſpacious than the former, ſaid to be 70 yards wide, and 40 high, but totally dark. A path on its right ſide leads up a ſteep aſcent to the top of a rock; another declines and leads to a much lower and narrower part. The whole length of the ſubterranean paſſage is ſaid to be 750 yards, and attempts have been made by blaſting the rock to extend it further in order to communicate with another cavern, but without ſucceſs. A ſtream of water runs through the whole length, which muſt be croſſed ſeveral times, and after heavy rains is ſo much ſwelled as to cut off acceſs to the further parts.

Poole's-hole is a cavern formed in the lime-ſtone, and ſituated a ſhort diſtance from Buxton. Its entrance is low and narrow, requiring a perſon to ſtoop conſiderably. After proceeding 20 or 30 yards in

in this poſture, you open into a ſpacious and lofty cavern, the roof and ſides of which are covered with ſtalactitical incruſtations, called here *water-icle*. Large piles and maſſes of the ſame ſubſtance appear on the floor, which are continually receiving increaſe from the droppings of water loaded with calcareous matter, and put on various ſingular figures. The cavern, after contracting at a large water-icle called the flitch of bacon, enlarges again, and continues of the ſame dimenſions till you come to Mary queen of Scots' pillar, which is a large column of ſtalactite. It is not eaſy to go farther. The path has hitherto lain along the ſide and ſome height from the bottom of the cavern. On deſcending to examine the interior extremity, the bottom is at firſt tolerably even, but after 20 yards it riſes with a perpendicular aſcent to the height of 80 yards. On returning by the bottom, you paſs under the queen of Scots' pillar, and view various other incruſtations, ſome of extraordinary ſize and form. The whole length of the cavity is ſaid to be 560 yards.

Elden-hole, ſituated in Peak-foreſt, is alſo a cleft in a lime-ſtone meaſure. Its entrance is perpendicular. It is a deep chaſm extending lengthwiſe in the direction of north-weſt and ſouth-eaſt. Near the ſurface it is about 10 yards wide and 30 long; bu it gradually contracts, and at the depth of 90 feet is very much confined. At this place is a projection of the rock, and behind it a ſmall cave admitting the light. Miners and other perſons have deſcended much below this, and found various other chinks and caverns lined with ſtalactite. At a vaſt depth water has been found, and there is ſome reaſon to believe that this is part of a ſubterraneous river which appears in the mouth of the cavern at Caſtleton. All the ground between Perry-foot and Caſtleton abounds in clefts and caverns, a ſeries of which reaches from the neighbourhood

of

of Peak's-hole nearly to Elden-hole. Theſe have been diſcovered by miners in ſinking their ſhafts, and purſued under ground to a great extent.

There are other ſubterraneous caverns and paſſages near Eyam, particularly Charleſworth and Bamforth-hole. The latter is a ſeries of ſtalactitical caverns of conſiderable extent.

MINES AND MINERALS.

Lead.—Lead mines in Derbyſhire are of great antiquity, undoubted proof exiſting that they were worked in the time of the Romans. They may be traced from the Saxon and Norman eras down through ſucceſſive periods to the preſent time. The extent to which the buſineſs has been carried on at different periods cannot with certainty be determined; but the produce of the mines during the laſt century has undoubtedly been very conſiderable. At preſent, lead ore is found in various parts of the country. Indeed, it has been diſcovered in different quantity throughout all the tract of lime-ſtone land; but it is met with in the greateſt abundance about ten miles to the north and ſouth of the river Wye.

Veins of lead ore, on account of their poſition in the earth, are diſtinguiſhed by the different names of *pipe*, *rake*, and *flat* works. A pipe-work lies between two meaſures of lime-ſtone regularly extending above and below. It conſiſts of ſeveral lines or branches running nearly parallel to each other, which have a general communication by means of ſlender threads, or leadings, as they are called by the miners. The rock is ſometimes pierced through by theſe leadings, which it is thought right to follow, as they often conduct to a freſh range. Should no ore be found

found on ſuch a purſuit, the breadth of the work is aſcertained: its length is indeterminate, depending much upon the dipping of the meaſures. If this be great, it begins to decline, or cannot be purſued further on account of water. The rake-vein is found in the chaſms or clefts of the lime-ſtone, and conſequently breaks through the meaſures and ſinks into the earth. It ſometimes penetrates 150 or 200 yards, generally in a ſlanting direction; and it has been followed to the diſtance of four miles from the place where it was firſt diſcovered. The flat-work reſembles the pipe, but has no leader or ſtem like that. It ſpreads wider, and ſeldom extends above 100 yards. It is alſo found near the ſurface and in the ſolid rock, and is very weak and poor, being ſeldom thicker than a man's finger.

The veins of lead ore are generally encloſed in a yellow, red, or black ſoil, and are firmly connected with cauk, ſpar, or ſome other mineral. Their direction is not uniform. The pipes, never penetrating the meaſures, follow the dip of the country in which they are found. The rakes run ſtill more variouſly; in the High Peak, generally pointing eaſt and weſt; in the wapentake of Wirkſworth, north and ſouth. Sometimes two veins cut each other at right angles: ſometimes the pipe and rake unite and run together a ſhort way, becoming ſtronger and richer. It is difficult to determine which of theſe two veins is moſt common, or moſt productive; the pipe, however, ſeem moſt generally valuable.

Veins are diſcovered various ways; ſometimes by attention to the nature of the ground, which leads the experienced miner to make a ſearch by boring; often by accidents laying open ſome branch which riſes to-day. The more the branches which accompany a vein, the

richer

richer it is, and when they begin to diminiſh, it becomes poorer. Alſo, for the moſt part, a vein is impoveriſhed when it runs in ſuch a direction as to receive over it a greater number of meaſures. In working mines, a principal point is to free them from water; the moſt common and effectual method of doing which is to drive a ſough or level from the bottom of ſome neighbouring valley, as far as the works; where this cannot be done, pumps muſt be employed, which are either worked by a water wheel, or by a fire engine. Mines are freed from bad air by the introduction of a pipe down the ſhaft to the work, whence it is extended along the roof of the gallery. The circulation this occaſions proves an effectual remedy.

There are numerous and various regulations reſpecting the rights of miners, and the dues payable for the ore, in different parts of the mining country. The principal tract containing lead is called the *King's-field*. Under this denomination nearly the whole wapentake of Wirkſworth is comprized, as well as part of the High Peak. The mineral duties of the King's-field have been from time immemorial let on leaſe. The preſent farmer of thoſe in the High Peak is the duke of Devonſhire; and of thoſe in the wapentake of Wirkſworth is Mrs. Rolles. They have each a ſteward and bar-maſters in the diſtricts they hold of the crown. The ſteward preſides as judge in the Barmote courts, and with twenty-four jurymen determines all diſputes reſpecting the working of mines. The courts are held twice a year; thoſe of the High Peak at Money-aſh, and thoſe of the wapentake at Wirkſworth. The principal office of the bar-maſter is putting miners in poſſeſſion of the veins they have diſcovered, and collecting the proportion of ore due to the leſſee. When a miner has found a new vein of ore in the King's-field, provided it be not in an orchard, garden, or high-road, he may obtain

an

an excluſive title to it on application to the bar-maſter. The method of giving poſſeſſion is, in the preſence of two jurymen, marking out in a pipe or rake work two *meares* of ground, each containing 29 yards; and in a flat work 14 yards ſquare. But if a miner neglect to avail himſelf of his diſcovery beyond a limited time, he may be deprived of the vein of which he has received poſſeſſion, and the bar-maſter may diſpoſe of it to another adventurer. As to the other part of the bar-maſter's office, that of ſuperintending the meaſurement of the ore, and taking the dues of the leſſee or lord of the manor, it is attended with ſome difficulty from the variety of the claims, which differ greatly in different places. In general, a thirteenth of the ore is the due in the King's-field, but a twenty-fifth only is taken. Beſides this, there is a due for tithe. In mines that are private property, ſuch tolls are paid as the parties agree upon.

The miner having ſatisfied the ſeveral claims, proceeds to diſpoſe of his ore to the merchant or ſmelter. There are four denominations of ore; the largeſt and beſt ſort is called *Bing*; the next in ſize and almoſt equal in quality is named *Peſey*; the third is *Smitham*, which paſſes through the ſieve in waſhing; the fourth, which is caught by a very ſlow ſtream of water, and is as fine as flour, is ſtiled *Belland:* it is inferior to all the reſt on account of the admixture of foreign particles. All the ore as it comes from the mine is beaten into pieces and waſhed before it is ſold. This buſineſs is performed by women, who can earn about 6d. per day.

Smelting furnaces are of two kinds, the hearth and cupola. The hearth conſiſts of large rough ſtones placed ſo as to form an oblong cavity about two feet wide and deep, and 14 long, into which fuel and ore

ore are put in alternate layers; the heat is raiſed by means of a large pair of bellows worked by a water wheel. The fuel is wood and coal. The lead procured this way is very ſoft, pure, and ductile, but a conſiderable quantity of metal remains in the ſlags. Theſe are, therefore, ſmelted over again with a more intenſe fire of coke; but the metal produced is inferior in quality to the former. At preſent, a ſmall proportion of ore is ſmelted this way, only two hearth furnaces remaining in Derbyſhire. The cupola, introduced about fifty years ſince, is of an oblong form, reſembling a long, but not very deep, cheſt, the top and bottom of which are a little concave. The fire being placed at one end, and a chimney at the other, the flame is drawn over the ore placed at the bottom, and by its reverberation ſmelts it without any contact of the fuel.

The lead when ſmelted is poured into moulds of various ſizes, according to the different markets for which it is intended, Hull, Bawtry, or London. Two of the blocks make a pig. Some of it, however, is firſt rolled into ſheets at works erected for the purpoſe near the furnaces. A conſiderable quantity is alſo converted into red-lead. This proceſs is performed in a kind of oven, the floor of which is divided into three parts. The middle of theſe contains the metal, and the two others, the fire. The flame being reverberated on the metal, converts it to a calx or powder; which, on being a ſecond time expoſed to the action of the fire, acquires a red colour.

Attempts were made ſome years ago to extract ſilver from the lead; but no ſuch work now exiſts in Derbyſhire. The ſulphur driven off from the ore in ſmelting is collected at two furnaces.

The

The annual produce of lead from the Derbyſhire mines is not exactly aſcertained, but may be eſtimated at an average of between 5 and 6000 tons. It is generally thought to be on the decline, ſome of the richeſt mines being either exhauſted, or become more difficult to work; but on the other hand, from the improvements in the art of ſmelting, and the more effectual methods employed to clear the mines of water by new levels and improved fire engines, advantages have been gained that may, perhaps, ſupply the deficiency.

Iron.—The ore of this metal occurs throughout all that tract in which coal has been diſcovered, Chinley-hills excepted. The depth at which it lies from the ſurface is extremely various. Frequently, from the great dipping of the meaſures, it baſſits out to-day. In this caſe, a hole is made like the ſhaft of a coal-pit. This is gradually enlarged on going deeper, ſo as to aſſume the form of a bell. It is ſeldom ſunk lower than 18 yards; after which freſh ground is broken and a new pit ſunk: by this means the lower beds are mixed with the ſoil near the ſurface, ſo as to injure the land greatly; whence it is not thought worth while to dig for iron ore unleſs the beds are very valuable. Their thickneſs varies from two to 12 inches. The moſt valuable beds which have yet been diſcovered are in Morley-park near Heage, at Wingerworth, Cheſterfield, and Stavely. At all theſe places furnaces are built; theſe are of a circular or conical form, having the fire with a blaſt at the bottom. When the furnace is prepared and duly ſeaſoned, the proceſs of ſmelting begins. Fuel, ore, and flux, in alternate layers, are continually put in day and night, and the fire is not ſuffered to go out till the furnace wants repair, which is frequently a period of ſome years. The fuel is generally coke, though charcoal has been uſed. Lime-ſtone is the univerſal flux. The ore undergoes the previous preparation of being

being burned in the open air in beds, firſt with coke, then with coal ſlack; it is then brokeu into ſmall pieces and ſcreened. The proceſs of ſmelting takes different times according to the ſize of the furnace and other circumſtances. Different ſorts of iron are produced by varying the proportions of ore, flux, and fuel. The metal firſt obtained is brittle and void of due malleability. To give it this property it is carried to the forge, and wrought into bars. The quantity of iron produced in this county amounts to about 5600 tons.

Calamine.—The value of this mineral, which is an ore of zinc, has but lately been attended to in this county. The chief places in which it is diſcovered, are Caſtleton, Cromford, Bonſall, and Wirkſworth. It occurs at various depths, but is generally found near a vein of lead ore. The two minerals are ſometimes mixed, or run a conſiderable way by the ſide of each other; but more commonly, one ceaſes where the other begins, and a good vein of both is never found in the ſame place. Calamine generally lies in a bed of yellow or reddiſh brown clay. The beds reſemble pipe works, and conſiſt of lumps of various ſizes and ſhapes: their direction is the ſame with the dip of the meaſures.

The calamine is firſt waſhed in a current, and then again in ſieves in a veſſel of water, and all the foreign matters, as ſpar, cauk, and lead ore are picked out from it. It is next calcined in a reverberatory furnace, after which it is again picked, ground to a fine powder, and waſhed. The quantity of calamine at preſent annually produced in Derbyſhire is about 500 tons. Its value in its crude ſtate is from 35 to 40 ſhillings per ton; in its prepared ſtate, five or ſix guineas. It is inferior in value to the calamine of Mendip in Somerſetſhire. Blend or black

black jack, alſo got in Derbyſhire, is another ore of zinc, leſs valuable than calamine.

Copper.—This metal has hitherto been found only in ſmall quantity in Derbyſhire. Conſiderable pieces detached from any vein are frequently met with at Matlock and Bonſall. A ſlender vein of ore was diſcovered ſome years ſince at Great Roch Dale, between Tideſwell and Buxton; and another lately near Chapel-le-frith; but neither is worked.

Coal Mines.—The tract of country producing coal has already been mentioned. It is got in great abundance in Derbyſhire. Coal is met with at various depths, and in ſome places ſeveral beds are paſſed by one ſhaft, but the upper ones are thin and ſoft, and ſeldom worked. Beſides the home conſumption of coal, which is very great, a conſiderable quantity is conveyed by the Errewaſh canal into Leiceſterſhire, and by the Cheſterfield, into Nottinghamſhire and Lincolnſhire. Large quantities alſo go to Sheffield from Dronfield pariſh.

Plaſter-ſtone.—The moſt valuable kind of this ſubſtance was got at Elvaſton, but the pits are now cloſed. That of Chellaſton, though neither of a fine colour nor texture, is equally uſeful for common purpoſes. About 800 tons are got annually from theſe pits, of which 500 are ſent by the canal into Staffordſhire to the potteries, where it is uſed for the formation of moulds. A conſiderable quantity is alſo uſed for laying floors in buildings. For both theſe purpoſes a previous calcination is neceſſary, after which the addition of water makes it ſet firm and ſolid. In its native ſtate, this ſubſtance is called gypſum and alabaſter, and when wrought, takes a high poliſh, and is uſed for ornamental works. The calcined gypſum is uſed for all the purpoſes of

plaſter

plaſter of Paris, and is ſometimes mixed with lime in making the finer kinds of mortar.

Lime-ſtone.—The extent of country which yields this ſtone has been already mentioned. Its qualities are various. At Buxton, Peak-foreſt, and Stony-Middleton, it is of a light grey, and when burned is much uſed in agriculture. For this purpoſe much is diſpoſed of in the northern part of the county, and alſo in Cheſhire and Lancaſhire. At Crich are ſeveral kilns, which burn a lime remarkably white, and much valued for ceilings and other ornamental purpoſes. This lime-ſtone is free from metallic particles, and forms a manure for cold lands, which is reckoned to bring the crops a fortnight forwarder than that which is darker-coloured. At Ticknal and Kniveton the lime-ſtone is very dark, and ſets very ſtrongly. That of the latter place is thought nearly equally to the lime of Barrow in Leiceſterſhire. At Hopton is a kind of a light colour, hard, and abounding with ſmall fragments of entrochi. It is much uſed for hearths, chimney-pieces, floors, and ſtair-caſes. On Braſſington moor a ſpecies of a ſimilar nature, but ſuperior quality, has been diſcovered.

Marble is found in various parts of the High and Low Peak: it is either black or mottled grey. The black abounds chiefly at Aſhford; it may be had in large blocks, and is in general very black, cloſe, ſolid, and capable of a high poliſh. The mottled grey is found in many places, but particularly near Money-aſh. It has a great diverſity of ſhades, but may be diſtinguiſhed into two kinds; that with a lightiſh grey ground, and that with a light blueiſh ground. The latter is rendered very beautiful by the purple veins that ſpread over its ſurface. But the chief ornament of the grey marble is the vaſt quantity of entrochi

trochi that it contains, the tranſverſe and longitudinal ſections producing an incredible variety of forms. In general, the more ſuperficial the beds of marble, the lighter its colour, and the more abundant the entrochi.

Water-icle or *Stalactite* is very common in the Peak, and of a great variety of colours. They are poliſhed and uſed for making ornaments of various figures; as are likewiſe the *tranſparent calcareous ſpars*, of the rhombic kind.

Porcelain Clay, of a delicate white and very fine texture, has been got from a lead mine near Braſſington. What is now dug, is ſent to the Staffordſhire potteries. *Pipe-clay* is got at Bolſover, where pipes are made with it, and both it and potter's clay are found in various other parts. *Rotten-ſtone* is met with near Bakewell, and is much uſed by the lapidaries of Derby.

Slate of a grey colour is got in Chinley-hills, and at Hayfield, and is much uſed for covering houſes in that neighbourhood.

Chert is found in ſtrata, and may be ſeen running through the rocks in the Peak. A large quantity of it is carried from the neighbourhood of Bakewell into Staffordſhire and Yorkſhire, where it is uſed in the manufacture of earthen ware. Some kinds of it are made into mill-ſtones.

Moor-ſtone is found in the north-weſt part of the county, and the eaſt moor. Mill-ſtones are made of it on Kinder-ſcout, and in the pariſh of

of Eyam. *Free-ſtone* is found in various places, and ſome of the fineſt houſes in Derbyſhire have been built with it.

A ſpecies of *pyrites* got near Dronfield is uſed for the production of copperas, but in no great quantity.

Black wad.—This earth, which on analyſis is found to be chiefly compoſed of iron and manganeſe, is met with principally at Elton near Winſter. After calcination it is uſed as an oil colour in houſe and ſhip painting. It is chiefly employed for the latter purpoſe, and there is a conſiderable demand for it in the royal navy.

Medicinal Waters.—Derbyſhire abounds beyond moſt counties with mineral and medicinal waters; they are of various kinds, warm, cold, ſaline, calcareous, ſulphureous, and chalybeate. Some of the moſt noted, which come within the limits of this work, will be particularized hereafter.

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISION.

In the Roman times, Derbyſhire formed part of the country of the Coritani; in the Saxon, part of the kingdom of Mercia. It is divided into ſix hundreds; the names of which are,

High Peak hundred, in the north-weſt.
Scarſdale hundred, in the north-eaſt.
Wirkſworth wapentake, in the weſt.
Appletree hundred, in the weſt.
Morleſton hundred, in the eaſt.
Repington hundred, in the ſouth.

Theſe are ſaid to contain 11 market towns, and about 440 hamlets.

The

The number of inhabitants in the year 1788, from the moſt accurate inquiry that could be made, was 124,465; of houſes, 25,642. An eſtimate made in the late reign reckons the inhabitants at 126,900, but there are good grounds for ſuſpecting its accuracy, as population ſeems in moſt parts to have been increaſing. Derbyſhire pays ſix parts of the land-tax, and provides 560 men to the national militia.

Some remains of the ancient civil policy of the county ſtill appear, the court of the duchy of Lancaſter, and the Peverel court, being of this kind. The honor of Tutbury and the hundred of Appletree belong to the former; and courts are regularly held, called three weeks courts, for the honor, at Tutbury, and for the hundred, at Sudbury. The Peverel courts are held at Basford near Nottingham. A conſiderable number of townſhips belong to each of theſe. The courts of High Peak and the wapentake of Wirkſworth have already been mentioned, as regulating the mineral concerns of thoſe parts. With reſpect to its common judicature, Derbyſhire is included in the midland circuit.

Derby, the capital, is the only parliamentary borough in the county. It ſends two members to parliament, and the county two more.

In its eccleſiaſtical concerns, it forms a part of the dioceſe of Litchfield and Coventry, and is divided into one archdeaconry, and five deanries, which are the following:

ARCHDEACONRY OF DERBY.

Deanry of Aſhborne.
——— *of Caſtillar.*
——— *of Cheſterfield.*

Deanry

Deanry of Derby.
——— *of Repington.*

Its parochial churches, from the beſt inquiry, amount to 116; its chapels, of which two are extra-parochial, to 71. There are 39 meeting-houſes of different denominations of Diſſenters.


WEST RIDING
of
YORKSHIRE.
NORTH RIDING
EAST RIDING
WESTMORELAND
LANCASHIRE
CHESHIRE
DERBYSHIRE
LINCOLNSHIRE
NOTTINGHAMSH.
Bow Fell
Hardrow Chapel
ASKRIG
HAWES
SEDBERG
Lit Town
Gars Dale
Dent R.
DENT
Dent Dale
Smalthy Garth
Barbon
KIRBY LONSDALE
Scales
Thornton
Ingleton
Horton
New Houses
Fountains Fell
Clapham
Holy Well
Armcliff
Coniston
Coniston Moor
Keelwell
Oldfield
Kirby Malzard
Nid R.
Old Hall
RIPON
Kirby Hill
ALDBOROUGH
Borough Bridge
Minskip
Marton
Nidd R.
G. Stanley
RIPLEY
KNARESBOROUGH
Green Hammerton
Ure River
Swinton Hall
Tanfield
Old Hall
Dishforth
Thornton
Ribble River
Old Ing
Greenfield River
Buckden
Greenhow
Grassington
PAITLEY BRIDGE
Fountains Hall
Ripley Hall
Padside Hall
Burnsall
Hebden
Barden
Barden Park
Rilston
Malham
Kirkby
Long Preston
Skirbeck
Hellifield Peel
Holme Bridge
SETTLE
Lawland
Wyth Garth Chap.
Tosside
Cold Coniston
Gargrave
SKIPTON
Kilden
Kelton Bridge
Bolton
Fewston
Brackenthwaite
Deer Park
Pannall
High Harrogate
New Inn
Washforth
Colthorpe
Kirk Deighton
Long Marston
YORK
WETHERBY
Swinton Hall
Dun Keswick
Ilkley
Weston
Addingham
Bolton
Skyreburn
Holton
Gisburn
Whitewell Chap.
Sawley Abbey
CLITHEROE
COLN
Hodder River
Belland Forest
Whitehouse Gate
Leeds and Liverpool Canal
Burley Moor
ORLEY
HAREWOOD
Bramham
Bramhope
Cock Trough
Abroedley Gates
Tower
LEEDS
Collingham
TADCASTER
Ouse River
Wharfe R.
CAWOOD
ABERFORD
Whitchurch
W. Garforth
Park
Wistow
SHERBURN
Hambleton
SELBY
Loddon Hall
Fairburne
Brotherton
Barley Chap.
Chapel or Middle Haddlesey
Ferry Br.
Aire R.
Calder R.
River Aire
Hook Chap.
OUSE RIVER
Swinefleet
Howarth
Dunkeldon Park
BRADFORD
Pudsey
Great Horton
Wibsey Slack Hill
Birstall
Marley
Hanley Hall
Illingworth Chap.
Ovenden
HALIFAX
Calder River
Sowerby Ch.
Soyland
Ealand Chap.
Denshelf
Kirkthorpe
Purston Hall
Ackworth
Shapelton Park
Greave Hall
Haddlesey Hall
Temple Park
Went Riv.
Went R.
Thorne Waste
Old River Don
Don River
Fishlake
Owston
THORNE
Adwick upon Street
Hatfield
Armthorpe
DONCASTER
Hickeldon
Tan Hall
Walden R.
Wansworth
Thorne
Ravenfield
Malthy
ROTHERHAM
Whiston
Firbecks
Aston
Park Hill
Aldwarke
Kimberworth
Chapel Town
Wentworth Park
Dearne R.
Dearne
Midhope Dale
Midhope Chap.
Brightholmlee
Bradfield Chap.
Burley Gr.
SHEFFIELD
Ecclesfield Chap.
Attercliff Chap.
Tinsley Chap.
Rawmarsh
Kexbrough
Kirkby
Darfield
York Riv.
Barnsley Canal
Wombwell
Silkston
PENISTON
Carlecoates
Stanedge
Saddleworth Chap.
Holmfirth
Almondbury
Honley Chap.
Marsden Chap.
Lingwood
Bretton
Lit Lepton
Great Lepton
Flockton Chap.
Sandal
Potovbrick
Heaton
Heaton
Bradley Brook
HUDDERSFIELD
Crosland Hall
Firby Hall
Upperden Chap.
Colne R.
WAKEFIELD
Asbrig
Westall Hall
Heaton
Heaton
Heaton

IV.—*General Account of the* WEST-RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

THE great county of York is divided into three diſtricts called *Ridings*, the Eaſt, Weſt, and North, of which the two latter have each the magnitude of a large county. A conſiderable part of the Weſt-Riding coming within the limits of the preſent undertaking, it has been thought proper to prefix to the account of the particular places, a general deſcription of the diſtrict itſelf.

The *Weſt-Riding of Yorkſhire* is bounded to the north by the North-Riding, the river Ure making part of the diviſion; to the eaſt, by the Ainſty Liberty, and by the Eaſt-Riding, the rivers Wharf and Ouſe being the limits, and alſo by the counties of Lincoln and Nottingham; to the ſouth, by Derbyſhire and Cheſhire; to the weſt, by Lancaſhire and Weſtmoreland. Its length, if meaſured from north-weſt to ſouth-eaſt, exceeds 90 miles, upon an average breadth of about 40. It is computed to contain 2450 ſquare miles, or 1,568,000 ſtatute acres.

RIVERS.

A number of rivers take their courſe through it, the principal of which terminate in the Ouſe.

The

The *Nidd*, riſing in Nidderdale or Netherdale foreſt, paſſes Paitley-bridge, Ripley, and Knareſborough, and joins the Ouſe a few miles above York.

The *Wharf* takes its riſe in Langſterdale Chace, and paſſing by Otley, Harewood, Wetherby, and Tadcaſter, empties into the Ouſe near Cawood.

The *Aire* deriving its ſources from about Malham moor, flows near Skipton and Keighley; thence to Leeds, below which it is joined by the *Calder*, and they paſs on together by Ferry-bridge and Snaith, to the Ouſe near Howden.

The *Calder* riſes in the hills on the Lancaſhire border, weſt of Halifax, and after receiving the *Coln* from Huddersfield, flows by Wakefield to its junction with the *Aire*.

The *Don* or *Dun* riſes near the Cheſhire border weſt of Peniſton, which place it paſſes, and being augmented by many ſmall ſtreams from the Derbyſhire border, flows to Sheffield, where it receives the *Sheaf*. Theſe together run by Rotherham and Doncaſter to meet the Ouſe a little above its opening into the Humber.

The *Ribble* coming down by Settle, and joined by the *Hodder* from Bolland foreſt, takes its courſe weſtward into Lancaſhire.

Theſe numerous rivers beſtow beauty and fertility on the vales through which they flow, and afford, along with the navigable canals, the

the advantage of water carriage to the buſy manufacturing towns on their banks.

FACE OF THE COUNTRY.

The face of the country is in many parts ſtrongly irregular. In the weſtern and northern diviſions a conſiderable portion is hilly and mountainous, but interſected with numerous vales rich in the fineſt graſs.

The hills of *Ingleborough*, *Whernſide*, and *Penigent*, to the north and north-weſt of Settle, rank among the higheſt mountains of South-Britain. In their neighbourhood are various caverns and other natural curioſities belonging to a mountainous country. One of the moſt noted of theſe is *Malham-cove*, a kind of amphitheatre of ſmooth perpendicular lime-ſtone, 288 feet high in the centre from its ſummit to its baſe. On the top of the moor on which the cove is ſituated is an elevated lake called *Malham-tarn*, of clear and very cold water, abounding in trout. It diſcharges itſelf by a ſubterraneous paſſage into the river Aire, of which it forms the head. *Gordal-ſcar* in its neighbourhood forms a deep and romantic bed for the river, through which it rolls in a grand caſcade, over-hung by rugged rocks above 100 feet high, projecting above their baſes till they almoſt meet at top. Near *Chapel-in-the-dale*, on the north ſide of Ingleborough, are other remarkable pits or caverns, containing within them pools of water and caſcades, giving birth to ſubterraneous ſtreams which at length burſt out to day. The river Ribble near its origin in theſe parts tumbles into a deep cavern, and is loſt in the bowels of the mountains for three miles, when it emerges and makes its way to Settle. Many other romantic ſcenes are met with in this part of the diſtrict, which is a favourite ſpot for botaniſts on account of the number of rare and curious plants it contains.

The

The greater part of the Riding, however, is a flat country, with no other elevations than ſuch as ſerve to vary the proſpect. Towards the border of Lincolnſhire, and the lower part of the Ouſe, are large tracts of marſh, which have been drained by canals and dykes, firſt made in the reign of Charles I. Hatfield moor or chace, and Thorne waſte, contain the principal part of theſe lands.

The whole cultivated part of the Riding is almoſt completely encloſed with ſtone dikes and hedges, kept in excellent order; and there are few open fields, except where the land is common or waſte.

SOIL.

The nature of the ſoil in this extenſive tract differs greatly. There are all kinds, from deep ſtrong clay, and rich fertile loam, to the pooreſt peat earth, and it is not aſcertained which ſort prevails moſt. Much ground, originally barren, has been rendered productive by vicinity to great towns, and ſuperior culture. In general, it may be ſaid that a large proportion is of a quality favourable to the purpoſes of huſbandry. By a calculation made, it, however, appears, that the waſte lands in this Riding amount to 405,272 acres, of which it is computed that 265,000 are capable of cultivation, or of being turned into paſture, while the reſt are incapable of improvement, except by planting.

CLIMATE.

The climate is, in general, moderate. The mountainous parts in weſt are colder and more ſubject to rain than the others. The moſt eaſtern parts are ſomewhat damp and ſubject to fogs from their low ſituation near the great rivers, and they are leſs healthy.

The

AGRICULTURE.

The huſbandry of the Weſt-Riding is very different in different parts; in general, it may be diſtributed into the following ſyſtems. 1ſt. The paſture lands, where graſs is the chief object, and cultivation by the plough is only a ſecondary concern. The parts of the Riding in which this ſyſtem prevails are, at leaſt, one-third of the whole. From Ripley to the weſtern extremity almoſt all the good land is in graſs, and corn is raiſed only upon the inferior ſoils, and in ſo ſmall a quantity, that a ſtack of corn is a rare object. Upon the higher grounds in theſe parts are immenſe tracts of waſte, which are generally common among the adjacent poſſeſſors, and are paſtured by them with cattle and ſheep. Some of them are ſtinted paſtures, but the greater part are under no limitation, and in conſequence, the ground is exhauſted and the ſtock poor.

2dly. The lands adjoining the manufacturing towns. The greateſt part of theſe are occupied by perſons who do not follow farming as a buſineſs, but regard it only as a matter of convenience. The manufacturer has his encloſures, in which he keeps milch cows for the ſupport of his family, and horſes for the conveyance of his goods. Much ground under theſe circumſtances is not kept under the plough, yet more corn comparatively is raiſed than in the diviſion before deſcribed.

3dly. The parts in which tillage is principally attended to, and graſs is conſidered only in connexion with the beſt corn-huſbandry. If a line be run from Ripley ſouthward by Leeds, Wakefield, and Barnſley, to Rotherham, the greateſt part eaſtwards of it, to the banks of the

the Ouſe, is employed in raiſing corn. About Boroughbridge, Wetherby, and Selby, one half of the fields is under the plough; further ſouth, about Pontefract, Barnſley, and Rotherham, two-thirds; and to the eaſtward of Doncaſter, to Thorn and Snaith, three-fourths. There is not much waſte in this diviſion, and what there is appears capable of great improvement.

4thly. The common fields. Theſe are ſcattered over the whole of the laſt diviſion, but are moſt numerous in the country to the eaſtward of the great north road, from Doncaſter to Boroughbridge. In all theſe there is room for much ſubſtantial improvement by better modes of culture.

5thly. The moors. Theſe, beſides the large tracts in the firſt diviſion, moſtly lie in the ſouth-weſt parts of the Riding, above Peniſton and Sheffield. Upon them ſheep are chiefly bred, which are ſold to the graziers in the lower parts. A great part of them is common.

STATE OF PROPERTY.

A conſiderable part of the landed property of the Weſt-Riding is in the hands of ſmall freeholders and copyholders; but there are likewiſe a great number of extenſive proprietors. Few of the latter reſide upon their eſtates, at leaſt for a conſiderable part of the year, and the management of them is chiefly committed to ſtewards and factors. The greater part of the farms are comparatively ſmall; many on the arable lands under 50 acres, and none above 300; and they are ſtill ſmaller in the graſs diviſion. Moſt of the land is ſet without leaſe, or the occupiers are removeable at ſix months warning—a practice very diſcouraging

ging to improvements in agriculture. Some of the proprietors who are ſenſible of this, grant leaſes from three to twenty-one years.

MANURES.

Beſides thoſe in common uſe in other parts, the farmers employ ground bones, horn ſhavings, and rape duſt.

PRODUCTS.

The corn raiſed is of all kinds according to the ſoil; but the whole quantity grown in the Weſt-Riding is much ſhort of the conſumption. Towards the banks of the Ouſe a good deal of flax is grown. The turnip huſbandry prevails over a great part of the Riding, but the mode of cultivation would admit of improvement. The artificial graſſes are laid down with red and white clover, ſain-foin, and hay ſeeds. Winter tares are ſown in many parts. Pontefract has long been famous for the culture of liquorice. A great deal of oak and aſh wood is grown in the Riding, which meets with a ready ſale at the towns.

Not many horſes are bred except in the eaſtern parts. Thoſe in the weſtern are generally ſmall, but hardy, and capable of undergoing great fatigue. Of neat cattle there are four different breeds. 1. The ſhort-horned kind, which principally prevail on the eaſt ſide of the Riding, and are diſtinguiſhed by the name of the Durham, Holderneſs, or Dutch breed. 2. The long-horned or Craven breed, either bred and fed in the weſtern parts, or brought from the neighbouring part of Lancaſhire. Theſe are a hardy kind, and fit to endure the viciſſitudes of a wet climate. 3. A croſs between the two former breeds, which makes the beſt kind of all. A great number of milch cows of this

kind

kind are kept about Nidderdale, and are both uſeful and handſome. 4. Scotch cattle, which are brought in great numbers into the county to be fed, and produce the beſt beef in the markets. The graziers in Craven are very large dealers in this branch of buſineſs.

Of ſheep there are a great many kinds both bred and fed; but that which appears to have been the native breed is met with upon the moors in the weſtern part of the Riding, and is uſually called the Peniſton breed, from the name of the market town where they are ſold. They are horned, light in the fore-quarter, and well adapted for ſeeking their living in a hilly country. When fat, they weigh from 14lb. to 15lb. per quarter. They are a hardy kind of ſheep, and when brought down to the lower paſtures fatten kindly, and prove excellent mutton. Wool of all ſorts meets with a ready ſale in conſequence of the manufactures of the county.

MINERALS.

Coals are cheap and plentiful throughout moſt parts of the Riding, an advantage ineſtimable to a manufacturing diſtrict. Stone for building and various other purpoſes is every where at hand in the hilly parts.

There are ſeveral *mineral waters* in this Riding, of which the moſt noted is the ſulphureous water of Harrowgate, much reſorted to in cutaneous and cachectical complaints, and uſed both for drinking and bathing. There is alſo a chalybeate ſpring at the ſame place, and another at Thorpe Arch in conſiderable repute. At Knareſborough is a noted petrifying ſpring called the dropping well; and near Settle is one of the moſt remarkable ebbing and flowing wells in the kingdom.

CIVIL

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISION.

The Weſt-Riding of Yorkſhire is for the moſt part divided into Wapentakes, but alſo contains ſome detached diſtricts. The names of the diviſions are as follows:

Agbrigg Wapentake,
Barkſton Aſh ditto,
Claro ditto,
Ewcroſs ditto,
Morley ditto,
Oſgoldneſs ditto,
Skyrack Wapentake,
Staincliffe ditto,
Staincroſs ditto,
Strafforth and Tickhill ditto,
Liberty of Cawood, Wiſtow, and Ottley,
Liberty of Rippon,
Doncaſter Soke,
Leeds Borough.

Within theſe limits are contained twenty-nine market-towns, and five parliamentary boroughs.

Eccleſiaſtically, this Riding is within the province and dioceſe of York, and forms an archdeaconry, called the

ARCHDEACONRY OF YORK, OR WEST-RIDING,
divided into the following deanries:

Craven,
Doncaſter,
Pontefract,
City of York and Ainſty, (not in this Riding.)

Rippon, within the Archdeaconry of Cleveland, is a peculiar juriſdiction.

V.—*General Account of the* NORTHERN PART OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

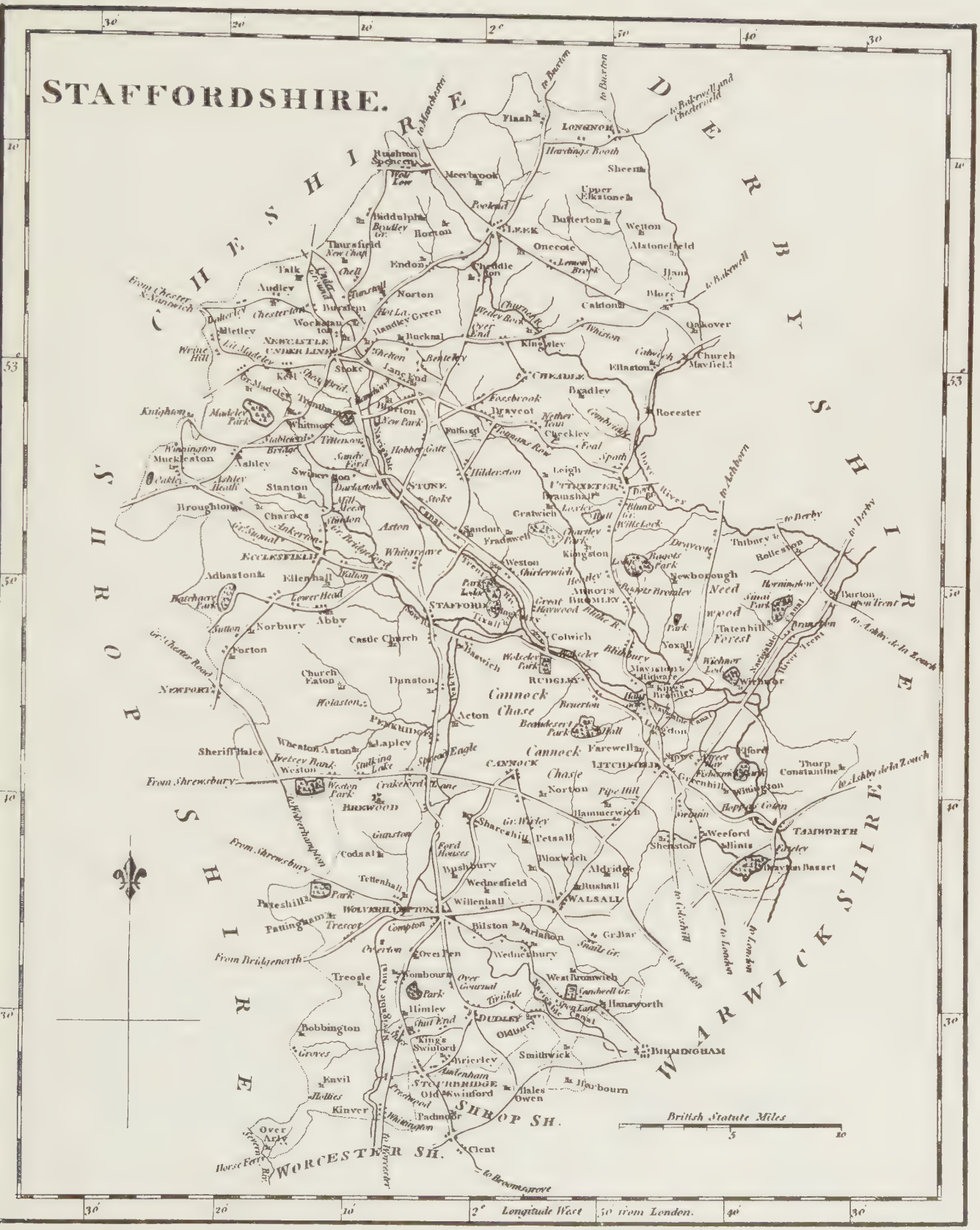
THE northern portion of the county of Stafford forms a broad angle, of which the eaſtern ſide joins to Derbyſhire, and the weſtern to Cheſhire. The greater part of it conſiſts of a tract called the *Moorlands*, a region in general hilly, ſteril, and open, compoſing the ſouthern extremity of the mountainous ridge which divides the north of England. Its height is ſhown by the number of ſtreams which take their riſe in it, moſt of which flow ſouthwards.

RIVERS.

The *Trent*, generally accounted the third river in England for length of courſe and quantity of water, riſes near Biddulph towards the Cheſhire border, out of New-pool, and two ſprings flowing from Molecop, many more little ſprings ſoon contributing to form it into a rivulet. It paſſes not far from Newcaſtle, and viſits Trentham, where it diſtinguiſhes itſelf by its proper name. Its further courſe paſſes out of our circuit, through a great part of Staffordſhire, the ſouthern end of Derbyſhire, almoſt the whole of Nottinghamſhire, and terminates in the Humber.

The *Churnet*, formed by a conflux of two principal branches near Leek, themſelves compoſed of many moorland ſtreams, takes a ſouth-eaſtern courſe to join the Dove a little to the north of Utoxeter.

Further



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Further to the north-eaſt, the two mountain rivulets, *Hamps* and *Manifold*, come down to the neighbourhood of Wetton, where, on an extenſive and romantic common, they both ſink into the earth, and riſe again conjoined, three miles below, in Ilam gardens, and ſoon empty themſelves into the Dove. This ſubterraneous tranſit is deſcribed by that celebrated poet Dr. Darwin, in a paſſage glowing with images of nature and fancy, from which we ſhall copy only the *natural* part :

Where *Hamps* and *Manifold*, their cliffs among,
Each in his flinty channel winds along ;
With lucid lines the duſky moor divides,
Hurrying to intermix their ſiſter tides.
* * * * * * * * *
* * * * * * * * *
Three thouſand ſteps in ſparry clefts they ſtray,
Or ſeek thro' ſullen mines their gloomy way ;
On beds of Lava ſleep in coral cells,
Or ſigh o'er jaſper fiſh and agate ſhells.
Till where fam'd *Ilam* leads his boiling floods
Thro' flowery meadows and impending woods,
Pleas'd, with light ſpring they leave the dreary night,
And 'mid circumfluent ſurges riſe to light ;
Shake their bright locks, the widening vale purſue,
Their ſea-green mantles fring'd with pearly dew ;
In playful groups by towering *Thorp* they move,
Bound o'er the foaming wears, and ruſh into the *Dove*.

Botan. Gard. Part II.

The *Dove* riſes near the northernmoſt point of the county, in the very bordering line of Derbyſhire, and flowing ſouth-eaſtwards, makes the limit of the two counties as far as its junction with the Trent below Burton. The channel of the Dove has a great declivity, and in many places tumbles over the rocks in caſcades. Its water has a greyiſh caſt,

owing

owing to the particles of limeſtone it brings down with it, whereby, in its flood, it imparts great fertility to the meadows on its banks, ſo as to have given riſe to the old proverb,

In April, Dove's flood
Is worth a king's good.

After it has received the Churnet, this colour is almoſt waſhed away, and the meadows below are leſs diſtinguiſhed for fertility.

All the above-mentioned rivers ſpring out of the Moorlands; but one which has its ſource within our circuit, riſes weſt of the Trent, near the Cheſhire border: this is the *Sow*, the head of which is near Great Madeley, between Betley and Newcaſtle. It runs acroſs the county by Stafford, and mixes with the Trent above Burton.

FACE OF COUNTRY AND SOIL.

The northern part of Staffordſhire exhibits a variety of country, but it is chiefly characterized as a hilly tract, with interjacent vales, and bleak extenſive moors. Its general elevation above the ſouthern parts of the county may be eſtimated at from 100 to 200 yards; but it has ſome diſtinguiſhed eminences of much more conſiderable height. The hill called *Bunſter*, near Ilam, is calculated to riſe 1200 feet above the level of the Trent; and the *Wever* hills, and ſome of the other moorland peaks, 1500 feet. A pretty extenſive part of the moorlands is upon a lime-ſtone bottom. This portion reaches in length from the Wever hills to Longnor, and in breadth from the Dove to the parallel of Morredge. In this, the quantity of lime-ſtone is inexhauſtible, lying in many places in ſtrata of immenſe thickneſs. The

Wever

Wever hills are vaſt heaps of this ſtone, and are covered with a rich calcareous, loamy earth, which bears a fine turf. They are encloſed in large tracts by ſtone walls, which are almoſt the only boundaries in this part of the county. The fall even from the foot of theſe hills to the Dove and Churnet is very great, and thoſe rivers are very rapid. The hill of *Bunſter* is alſo a calcareous rock, and vaſt precipices from it overhang the Dove. The ridge of this mountain terminates in ſome places in conical ſugar-loaf peaks of bare lime-ſtone. *Mill-dale*, near Alſtonfield on the Dove, is a long narrow glen of great depth, the ſides of which conſiſt of perpendicular lime-ſtone precipices, which nearly equal in height the breadth of the dale. The vale in which the Manifold runs is extremely romantic, and contains a curious excavation in the ſide of a precipice called *Thyrſis's Cavern*

The country weſt of the lime-ſtone is generally ſandy or gravelly clay, or grit-ſtone rock, and is the worſt part of the moorlands. Its ſurface is uneven, and large tracts of waſte land, though on elevated ſituations, are mere peat bogs or moſſes. Large quantities of peat are cut upon *Morredge* and *Axedge*, which is ſpongy and retentive of moiſture. The *Cloud Heath*, *High Foreſt*, *Leek Frith*, and *Mole Cop*, are ſimilar pieces of ground. But the ſummits of ſome of the hills are rocky cliffs, particularly thoſe called *Leek rocks* or *roches*, and *Ipſtone cliffs*, which are compoſed of huge piles of rugged rocks, heaped upon each other in a tremendous manner. Leek rocks conſiſt of a coarſe ſandy grit; thoſe of Ipſtones are gravel or ſand, and ſmall pebbles cemented together. Many of the cliffs overhang ſteep precipices; and large maſſes detached from them are ſcattered on the moors around. To the ſouth of theſe, between Oak-moor and Cheadle, are Commons or waſtes, conſiſting of an immenſe number of rude heaps of gravel

gravel upon an under-ſtratum of ſoft ſandy rock, thrown confuſedly together into all ſorts of fantaſtical forms.

Between Mole-cop and Newcaſtle the country does not merit the name of Moorlands, but is various in appearance, divided by quickſet hedges and trees, and reſembling other cultivated tracts. The ſoil is generally cold and ſtiff. Towards Betley the ſoil is a mixed gravelly loam, with an underſtratum of ſand, gravel, marl, or grit. It produces fine timber trees, and is equally fit for paſture and arable. Between Betley and Newcaſtle is a good deal of light land. To the ſouth of the road towards Eccleſhall, is a ſtronger ſoil of friable clayey or marly loam, intermixed with peat and poor land on the eminences.

CLIMATE.

The *climate* of the north of Staffordſhire is cold and wet, like that of the adjacent parts of Derbyſhire and Cheſhire; ſnow lies long in the Moorlands, and the weſt wind ſeldom fails to bring rain.

AGRICULTURE AND PRODUCTS.

The *Agriculture* of this diſtrict is not entitled to particular obſervation. The Moorlands are chiefly devoted to the feeding of ſheep and cattle; the arable being a ſmall proportion, and the grain produced, almoſt ſolely oats and barley. The principal manure uſed is lime. The ſheep are of two kinds: thoſe on the eaſt Moorlands are white-faced and polled, with long or combing wool; upon the lime-ſtone bottom they are ſtrong and heavy, and are thought to be the moſt valuable breed on waſte land in the county. Thoſe upon the waſtes in the weſt part of the Moorlands, and on the grit and gravel bottom, are a much inferior ſort, and ſeem to have originated from the ancient

Moorland

Moorland breed, continued without attention. They have ſome white, ſome grey or dark faces, with legs generally of the ſame colour; ſome are with, and ſome without horns; and their fleeces are too coarſe for clothing, and too ſhort for combing wool. The cattle of the long-horned kind are of a good ſize and form, and thrive better on the ſhort graſs of the lime-ſtone hills than might be ſuppoſed. They are ſuperior to the breeds in the ſouthern part of the county. Thoſe fed on the Dove and the other rivers are in high eſteem. On the weſtern ſide a mixture of arable and paſture prevails, and the products are the uſual ones of that part of the kingdom.

MINERALS.

The *mineral* productions of this tract are various and important. The hill of Mole-cop, of which part is in Cheſhire, and part in this county, has been already noticed as yielding ſtone of ſeveral kinds, particularly excellent mill-ſtones. Lime-ſtone is common in the Moorlands, and alſo on the weſtern ſide, near Madeley. Great quantities of lime are burned upon Caldon Low, and in the neighbourhood of the Wever-hills. Clays of various ſpecies and colours, ſome tenacious, ſome friable, are found in great quantity near Newcaſtle, and have given riſe to the potteries of that diſtrict, which are of ancient ſtanding. Coals abound in moſt parts, of which a ſingular kind, called *peacock coal*, from the priſmatic colours appearing on its ſurface, is dug at Handley-green. This diſtrict poſſeſſes the ores of iron, copper, and lead. Iron-ſtone is met with plentifully to the weſt of Newcaſtle: it is ſmelted at the Madeley furnaces, and yields a cold-ſhort metal. Lead-ore is got not far from thence, which is uſed at the potteries.. A copper mine is wrought at Mixon, near Leek; but the principal in theſe parts is that at Ecton-hill, in the pariſh of Wetton, belonging to the

the Duke of Devonſhire. The hill in which the mine is ſituated is conical, and riſes 700 feet above the river Dove which flows at its foot. Its diameter is about half a mile. The mine was worked in the laſt century, but after ſome years was neglected as unprofitable. About thirty-five years ago it was re-opened by a Corniſh miner, and ſome adventurers at Aſhborne took a leaſe of it, and expended 13,000*l.* in ſearching for ore without ſucceſs. At length, after making a ſhaft 200 yards deep, they came to vaſt beds of the ore, which repaid their coſt. The leaſe has ſince fallen to the Duke, and it is ſaid to have cleared annually from 8000 to 10,000*l.*; but to be now leſs productive than formerly. More than 300 perſons, men, women, and children, are employed in the works; the men in digging, the women and children in breaking and picking the ore. On the oppoſite ſide of the hill a lead mine has been diſcovered, which promiſes to be valuable.

Staffordſhire was part of the country inhabited by the Roman *Cornavii*. Under the heptarchy it belonged to the *Mercian* kingdom. It is now, as to its civil juriſdiction, compriſed within the Oxford circuit; and with reſpect to its eccleſiaſtical, within the dioceſe of *Litchfield* and *Coventry*. It is divided into five hundreds, of which about half of that of *Totmanſlow* in the north-eaſt, and a ſmaller portion of that of *Pyrehill* in the north-weſt, are included within the limits of this work.

VI.—*Account of* RIVER *and* CANAL NAVIGATIONS.

THE great advantages accruing to trade from water-carriage have at all times been well known to commercial nations; and in proportion as this iſland has advanced in manufactures and commerce, plans for connecting the internal parts of the country with the ſea-ports by means of navigations have been encouraged and multiplied. It was natural, that extending and improving the navigation of rivers ſhould be the firſt expedient thought of for this purpoſe; and many projects of this kind were brought to effect in this kingdom, before the more expenſive and artificial conſtruction of canals was ventured upon. As our ſea-ports are for the moſt part ſituated at, and indeed formed by, the mouths of rivers, which nature has made capable of admitting veſſels to a certain diſtance up their channels; the extenſion of this natural navigation by deepening their beds and removing obſtacles has generally been attempted.

The port of Liverpool, at the mouth of the river Merſey, obviouſly depends for its conſequence upon the facility of communication that can be eſtabliſhed with the interior country; and, on the other hand, the cheap conveyance of the yarn, cotton, and other raw materials to Mancheſter and its neighbourhood, and of the wrought goods to a port for exportation, is of evident importance to the intereſts of the manufacturers. By the aſſiſtance of the tide, which flows with rapidity up the channel of the Merſey, veſſels were enabled, without any artificial help, to navigate as far as the neighbourhood of Warrington.

To

To render the higher parts of the river, through its communicating branch the Irwell, acceſſible to veſſels as far as Mancheſter, was an improvement, which could not fail of ſuggeſting itſelf to the enlightened inhabitants both of Mancheſter and Liverpool.

IRWELL AND MERSEY NAVIGATION.

In the year 1720 an Act of Parliament was obtained, empowering certain perſons in each town (but moſt of them reſident in Mancheſter) to make navigable the rivers Irwell and Merſey from Liverpool to Mancheſter—ſo the words of the act run; but as it is mentioned in the act, that the Merſey is already navigable from Liverpool to Bank-key near Warrington, and as all the ſtipulated demand for tonnage is confined to the navigation between that place and Mancheſter, it appears that the undertakers meant only to employ themſelves in the improvemnt of the upper part of the river. This has been effected by the uſual contrivances of wears, locks, &c. and the very winding courſe of the river has in ſeveral places been corrected by cuts acroſs the necks of the principal bends. The want of water in droughts, and its too great abundance in floods, are circumſtances under which this, as well as moſt other river-navigations, has laboured. It has been an expenſive concern, and has, at times, been more burthenſome to its proprietors than uſeful to the public. At preſent it is managed in a ſpirited and intelligent manner, and proves an uſeful addition in water-carriage to the rival canal-navigation.

WEAVER NAVIGATION.

In the ſame year, 1720, an important acceſſion was obtained to the internal communications of the port of Liverpool, by an act for making navigable

navigable the river Weaver, from Frodſham-bridge, which is near its conflux with the Merſey, up to Winsford-bridge beyond Northwich.

This act appointed certain perſons to be undertakers and truſtees of the propoſed navigation, with power to borrow a ſum of money to be advanced by other perſons named, at five per cent. intereſt, and one per cent. for the riſk, payable out of the firſt rates and duties accruing from the tonnage. If this ſum ſhould prove inſufficient, the undertakers were empowered to borrow more, ſecured in the like manner. After all the borrowed money, and all coſts and charges ſhould be fully repaid, the clear produce of the rates and duties was directed to be applied towards amending and repairing the public bridges in the county of Cheſter, and ſuch other public charges as the juſtices in quarter ſeſſions ſhould appoint; as alſo to the repair of highways leading from the ſalt-works to the river, and of other highways in the county. The ſum at firſt thought ſufficient to complete this work was 9000*l.*; but in an act to explain and amend the former, paſſed in 1759, it appears that a debt of 20,000*l.* had been contracted, the greateſt part at five per cent. and the reſt at four and half, ſecured by mortgages on the rates and duties of the navigation. This debt has now for ſome years been paid off, and a large annual balance is produced in favour of the undertaking. The annual income of the navigation is about 8000*l.* In the year ending April 1794, the amount of caſual profits and wharfage was 286*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*; of tonnage, 8736*l.* 9*s.* 8½*d.*; and notwithſtanding a large ſum expended in new improvements, beſides the uſual repairs, there was paid to the County Treaſurer for public purpoſes 3000*l.* The length of this navigation is twenty miles. It has a fall of 45 feet 10 inches, divided between ten locks. The rate of tonnage limited by the act is not more than one ſhilling per ton for all goods what-

whatſoever, and this is the charge now made for moſt goods. There are about 120 veſſels conſtantly employed on the navigation, from 50 to 100 tons burthen. The kind of goods carried are principally white and rock ſalt downwards; and coals and ſome merchants goods (but the latter to no conſiderable amount) upwards. The rock ſalt comes from the pits at Northwich; and its cheap conveyance to Liverpool has proved of material benefit to that port, by furniſhing a profitable article for loading or ballaſt to outward-bound ſhips. The coal is brought from Lancaſhire, and ſupplies a large tract of the internal parts of Cheſhire.

The principle upon which this work was undertaken, (almoſt the only one of the kind which can be called a *public work*,) and the ſucceſs with which it has been attended, ſeem to entitle it to particular notice.

DOUGLAS NAVIGATION.

While the Merſey and its communicating rivers were thus objects of commercial ſpeculation, another ſtream had its ſhare of attention. The neighbourhood of Wigan is particularly rich in coal, and the little river Douglas flows from that town to the eſtuary of the Ribble. A year before the above-mentioned acts were obtained, viz. in 1719, an act paſſed for making the river Douglas, alias Aſland, navigable from the river Ribble to Wigan. By means of this undertaking (which was not effected till 1727) the northern parts of Lancaſhire, and even Weſtmoreland, which produce no coal of their own, were ſupplied coaſt-wiſe with this neceſſary article; and the lime-ſtone and ſlate of thoſe parts were brought back in return.

The

The Douglas navigation has ſince been purchaſed by the proprietors of the Leeds and Liverpool canal, who have in part ſubſtituted an artificial cut to the natural channel of the river.

AIRE, CALDER, AND DUN NAVIGATIONS.

Conſiderably before this period, the clothing country of Yorkſhire had applied its rivers to the purpoſes of water-carriage. An act for making navigable the rivers Aire and Calder to Leeds and Wakefield, paſſed in the year 1699, and various extenſions and improvements in this navigation have been ſucceſſively made: and in 1725, another river in the Weſt-Riding, the Dun, was made navigable from Doncaſter to the diſtance of two miles from Sheffield.

Various other projects of river navigations were ſet on foot during the firſt half of this century in Lancaſhire and Cheſhire, ſome of which, however, were never carried into execution. One of theſe abortive ſchemes was that of making navigable Worſley brook, to its junction with the Irwell, for which an act was obtained in 1737. It is worth mentioning only as the parent in deſign of the duke of Bridgewater's firſt canal.

SANKEY CANAL.

But an undertaking particularly deſerving of notice took place in the year 1755, which, under the general powers of an act for making navigable a river, in reality gave riſe to the firſt canal-navigation made in England. In that year an act paſſed, by which certain undertakers were authorized to make Sankey brook or river navigable from the Merſey, which it joins about two miles below Warrington, up its three branches; viz.

viz. to Boardman's ſtone bridge near St. Helen's, on the ſouth branch; to Gerrard's bridge on the middle branch; and to Penny bridge on the north branch. From Sankey bridges to the ſtone bridge next above the mouth of Holme-mill-brook, was to be a new canal not communicating with Sankey brook. The owners of Sankey quays upon the old natural navigation of the brook from the Merſey were not to be prejudiced by the erection of quays or warehouſes interfering with them. The new navigation was to be entirely free and open upon the payment of ten-pence per ton tonnage to the undertakers. They were empowered to extend the navigation 800 yards from the three bridges beforementioned, as they found it convenient.

In a ſubſequent act granted in the year 1761, it is ſpecified in the preamble, that the navigation is completed from the loweſt lock on Sankey brook to Gerrard's bridge and Penny's bridge; but that in neap tides the navigation is rendered impracticable for want of water in the brook. The undertakers are therefore empowered to make a canal to be begun within 250 yards from the loweſt lock, and carried to the Merſey at a place called Fiddler's ferry. This new part is about one mile and three quarters in length; and in conſideration of it the undertakers are empowered to levy two-pence per ton more tonnage. The diſtance above the three bridges to which they are allowed to extend the navigation, is enlarged to 2000 yards.

The preſent ſtate of the canal is as follows:—It runs entirely ſeparate from Sankey brook, except croſſing and mixing with it in one place about two miles from Sankey bridges. Its length from Fiddler's ferry to the place where it ſeparates into three branches is $9\frac{1}{4}$ miles. From thence it is carried to Penny bridge and Gerrard's bridge without going

going further; but from Boardman's bridge it runs nearly to the limits of 2000 yards, making the whole diſtance from the Merſey 11¾ miles. There are eight ſingle and two double locks upon the canal, and the fall of water is about 60 feet. The chief article carried upon it is coal, of which, in the year 1771, by an account given in to Parliament, there were taken to Liverpool 45,568 tons, and to Warrington, Northwich, and other places, 44,152 tons. There are, beſides, ſlate brought down, and corn, deal balk, paving and lime-ſtone carried up.

This navigation is never obſtructed by floods, and ſeldom for any length of time by froſt; upon an average perhaps about a week every winter. The higheſt ſpring tides riſe within a foot of the level of the canal at the loweſt lock. Loaded veſſels are generally neaped about three days, but unloaded, can paſs to or from the river at every tide.

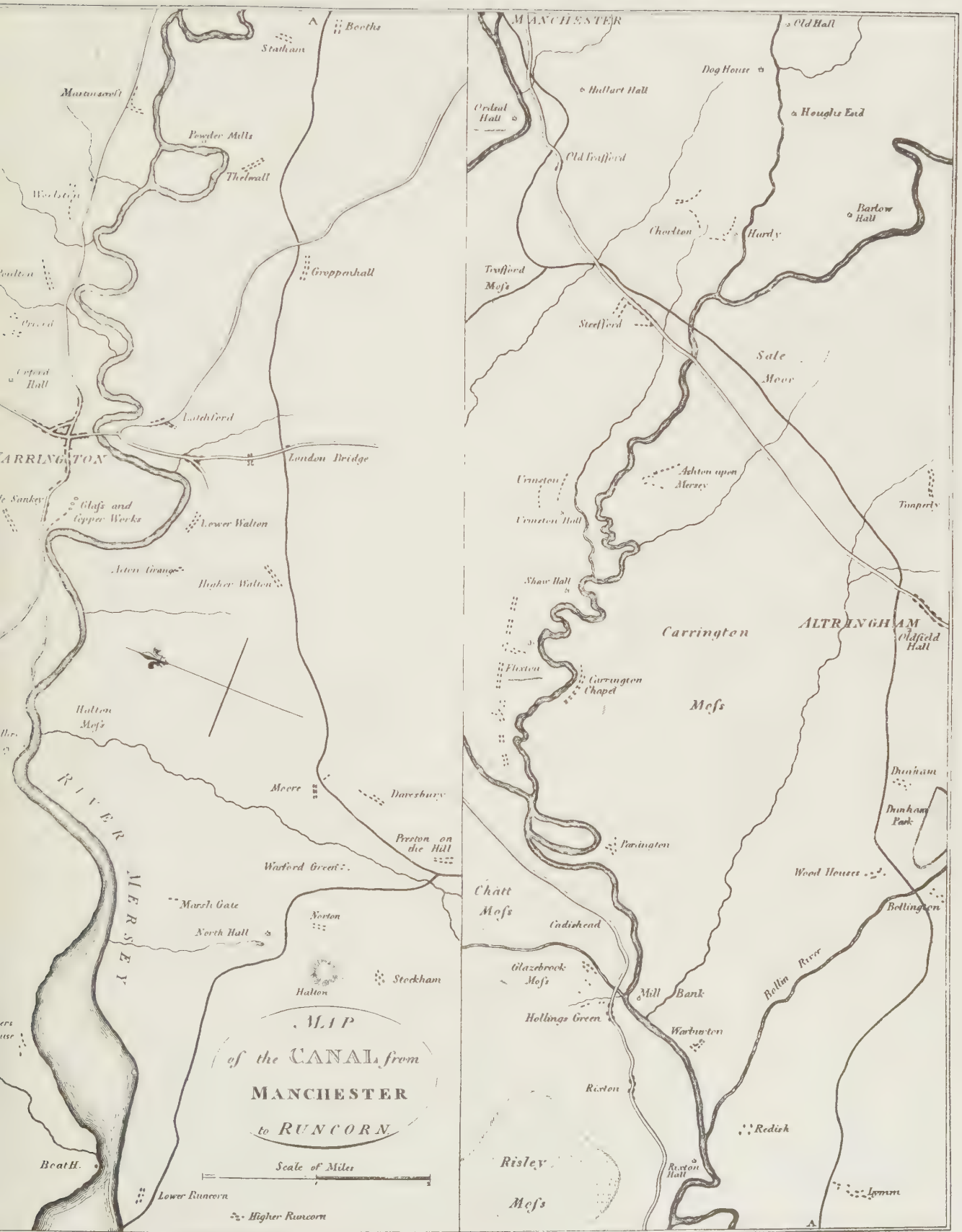
The old lock by which it at firſt communicated with Sankey brook ſtill remains, but is ſeldom uſed, unleſs when a number of veſſels are about entering from the Merſey at once, in which caſe ſome of the hindmoſt ſometimes ſail for Sankey brook in order to get before the others.

This canal has proved very beneficial both to the public and the undertakers. Some of the firſt collieries upon its banks are worked out, but others have been opened. Its buſineſs has been increaſed by the large copper-works belonging to the Angleſea company, erected on one of its branches, and by the plate-glaſs manufactory and other works founded near it, in the neighbourhood of the populous town of St. Helen's. Its original ſurveyor was Mr. John Eyes.

Duke of BRIDGEWATER's CANALS.

Thoſe magnificent plans which have rendered the name of the *Duke of Bridgewater* ſo celebrated in the hiſtory of canal-navigation, commenced in the years 1758 and 1759, when acts were paſſed enabling him, firſt, to carry a canal from Worſley to Salford, and alſo to Hollinferry on the Irwell; and ſecondly, to deviate from that courſe, and carry his canal from Worſley acroſs the river Irwell to Mancheſter, through the townſhip of Stretford. Poſſeſſing an extenſive property at and near Worſley, rich in coals, which could not by land carriage be conveyed to Mancheſter ſo advantageouſly as thoſe from the pits on the other ſide of that town, the Duke was naturally led to conſider of a better mode of conveyance. The formerly projected, but unexecuted, ſcheme of making navigable Worſley brook to the Irwell, evidently ſuggeſted the deſign; but the original and commanding abilities of his engineer, that wonderful ſelf-inſtructed genius *James Brindley*, pointed out a much more eligible mode of effecting his purpoſe, than by means of the waters of a winding brook, ſubject to the extremes of overflow and drought.

This firſt undertaking was marked with the features of greatneſs. At its upper extremity in Worſley it buries itſelf in a hill, which it enters by an arched paſſage, partly bricked, and partly formed by the ſolid rock, wide enough for the admiſſion of long flat-bottomed boats, which are towed by means of hand-rails on each ſide. This paſſage penetrates near three quarters of a mile before it reaches the firſt coal-works. It there divides into two channels, one of which goes 500 yards to the right, and the other as far to the left, and may be continued



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I Mudie Sc.



J. Swertner del! *Pollard sculp!*

VIEW OF BARTON BRIDGE.

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nued at pleaſure. In the paſſage at certain diſtances air funnels are cut through the rock, iſſuing perpendicularly at the top of the hill. The arch at the entrance is about ſix feet wide and about five in height from the ſurface of the water. It widens within, ſo that in ſome places the boats may paſs each other. To this ſubterraneous canal the coals are brought from the pits within the bowels of the hill in low waggons holding about a ton each, which, as the work is on the deſcent, are eaſily puſhed or pulled by a man along a railed way to a ſtage over the canal, whence they are ſhot into one of the boats. Theſe boats hold ſeven or eight tons, and ſeveral of them being linked together, are eaſily drawn out by the help of the rail to the mouth of the ſubterraneous paſſage, where a large baſon is made, ſerving as a dock. From hence they are ſent along the canal to Mancheſter, in ſtrings drawn by a horſe or two mules.

It was the principle of this, as it has been that of all Mr. Brindley's canals, to keep on the level as much as poſſible; whence it has been neceſſary to carry them over the roads or ſtreams upon arches after the manner of an aqueduct, and to fill up vallies by artificial mounds for their conveyance, as well as to cut down or bore through hills. The moſt ſtriking of all the aqueduct works is in this firſt canal, where it paſſes over the navigable river Irwell at Barton bridge. The aqueduct begins upwards of 200 yards from the river, which runs in a valley. Over the river itſelf it is conveyed by a ſtone bridge of great ſtrength and thickneſs, conſiſting of three arches, the centre one ſixty-three feet wide and thirty-eight feet above the ſurface of the water, admitting the largeſt barges navigating the Irwell, to go through it with maſts and ſails ſtanding. The ſpectator was, therefore, here gratified with the extraordinary ſight, never before beheld in this country, of one veſ-

ſel

ſel ſailing over the top of another; and thoſe who had at firſt ridiculed the attempt, as equivalent to building a caſtle in the air, were obliged to join in admiration of the wonderful abilities of the engineer, from whoſe creative genius there was ſcarcely any thing within the reach of poſſibility which might not be expected. This work is not the proper place for details of thoſe admirable contrivances, in which every department in the making of his canals have abounded. They have introduced numerous improvements into the practice of ſimilar works, and have received many additions from other ingenious perſons, among whom the duke of Bridgewater's ſteward, Mr. Gilbert, merits a diſtinguiſhed place.

This canal, after paſſing Barton bridge, was conveyed on the level, with great labour and expenſe, in a circuitous tract of nine miles, to Caſtlefield adjacent to Mancheſter. The moſt remarkable part of its courſe is that where it croſſes the low grounds near Stretford upon a vaſt mound of earth, of great length, the conſtruction of which exerciſed all the inventive powers of the conductor. At its termination it is fed by the river Medlock, and in order to keep up the water to a proper height, and prevent a ſuperabundance of it in time of floods, a large circular wear is conſtructed, having in its centre an aperture, or ſwallow, which conveys the ſuperfluous water by a ſubterranean paſſage into the brook below. Another wear of a ſimilar kind is formed at Cornbrook, three miles further. By the act for making this canal, the Duke was limited to a rate of tonnage not exceeding two and ſix-pence per ton, and was bound to ſell his coals at Mancheſter and Salford for no more than four-pence per hundred. On the execution of the undertaking, the poor of thoſe towns were benefited by a reduction in the price of coals of one half of what they before paid, and vaſt quantities were

were taken away by them from the wharf in Caſtlefield, in wheel-barrows, at three-pence halfpenny per hundred.

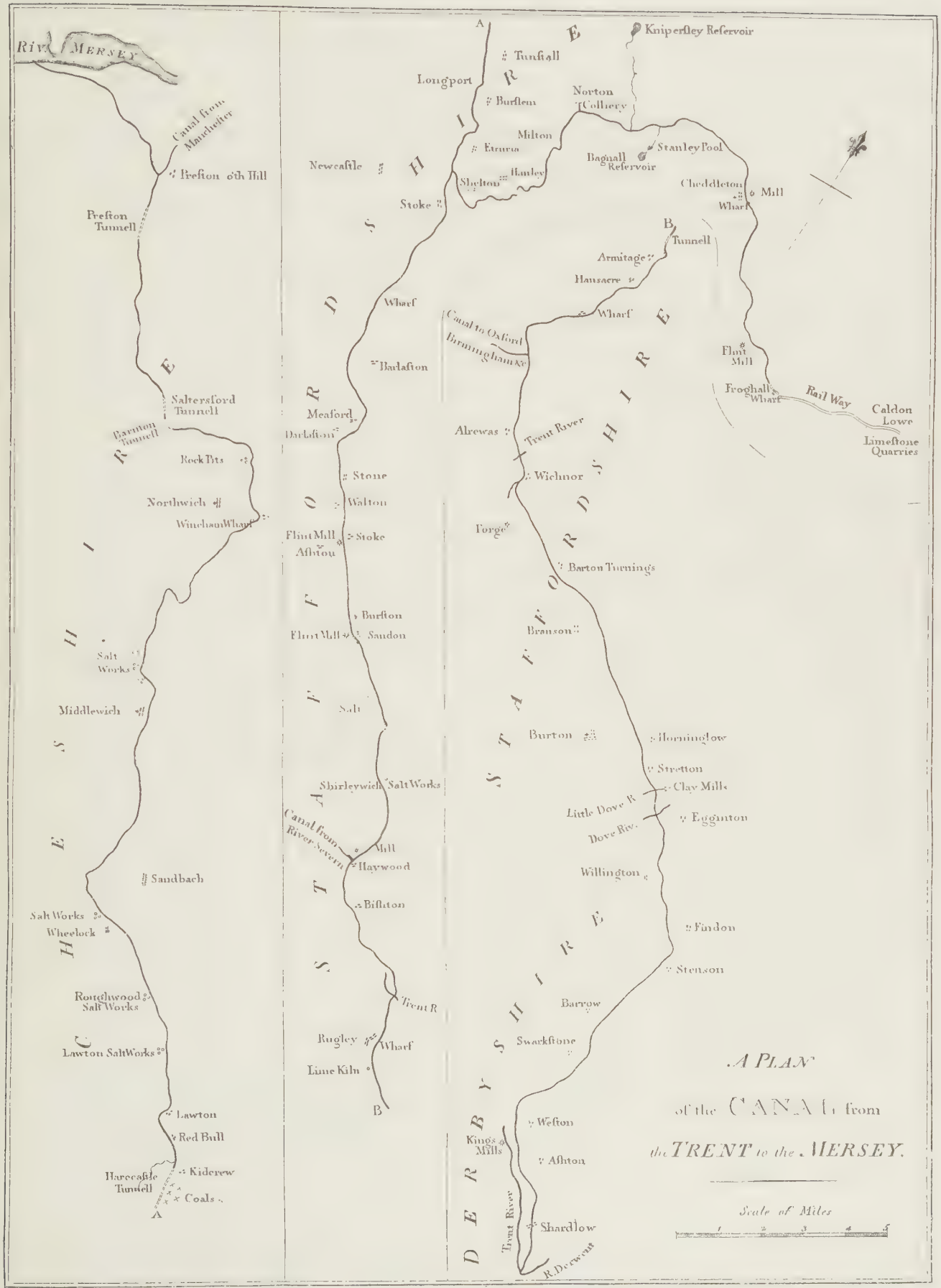
But before this firſt deſign was completed, a much greater and more important plan had opened itſelf to the Duke: which was an extenſion of his canal by a branch which, running through Cheſhire parallel to the river Merſey, ſhould at length terminate in that river below the limits of its artificial navigation, and thus afford a new and rival water-carriage from Mancheſter and its vicinity to Liverpool. The execution of this bold idea was authoriſed by an act of parliament obtained in 1761, which enabled the duke of Bridgewater to make a canal from Longford-bridge in the townſhip of Stretford, to the river Merſey, at a place called the Hempſtones in the townſhip of Halton. It was oppoſed, but ineffectually, by the proprietors of the old river-navigation, on which its operation could not but be highly injurious, however beneficial it might be to the public. This canal, which is more than twenty-nine miles in length to its termination at Runcorn-gap, (which place was preferred to the Hempſtones on account of the ſuperior advantage it offered in entering the mouth of the canal at neap tides) was finiſhed in five years. It is carried acroſs the Merſey by an aqueduct-bridge ſimilar to that over the Irwell at Barton, but lower, as the Merſey is not navigable in that part. Further on, it alſo croſſes the ſmall river Bollin, which, running in a tract of low meadows, has made a mound in that part neceſſary for the conveyance of the canal, of a height, breadth, and length, that forms a ſpectacle truly ſtupendous. The principle of keeping the level has been rigorouſly purſued, in defiance of expenſe and difficulty, for the whole length of the canal, till it is brought in full view of the Merſey at Runcorn. There it is precipitately lowered ninety-five feet in a chain of locks, of admirable conſtruction,

ſtruction, furniſhed at different heights with capacious reſervoirs of water, in order to ſupply the waſte incurred by the paſſage of veſſels.

When the duke of Bridgewater undertook this great deſign, the price of carriage on the river-navigation was twelve ſhillings the ton from Mancheſter to Liverpool, while that of land-carriage was forty ſhillings the ton. The Duke's charge on his canal was limited to ſix ſhillings, and together with this vaſt ſuperiority in cheapneſs, it had all the ſpeed and regularity of land-carriage. The articles conveyed by it were likewiſe much more numerous than thoſe by the river-navigation: beſides manufactured goods and their raw materials, coals from the Duke's own pits were depoſited in yards at various parts of the canal, for the ſupply of Cheſhire; lime, manure, and building materials were carried from place to place; and the markets of Mancheſter obtained a ſupply of proviſions from diſtricts too remote for the ordinary land conveyances. A branch of uſeful and profitable carriage hitherto ſcarcely known in England, was alſo undertaken, which was that of paſſengers. Boats on the model of the Dutch treckſchuyts, but more agreeable and capacious, were ſet up, which at very reaſonable rates and with great convenience carried numbers of perſons daily between Mancheſter and the principal extent of the canal. All theſe objects of traffic on the new canal became more and more conſiderable with the increaſing trade of Lancaſhire; but other circumſtances alſo greatly operated in its favour.

TRENT AND MERSEY COMMUNICATION.

There is a period in which the mind of man, rouzed to attend to any particular ſubject, whether of art, ſcience, or regulation, is irreſiſtibly



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ſiſtibly impelled to proceed in its career; and this criſis was now arrived with reſpect to the internal communication between the different parts of this kingdom by means of navigable canals.

As early as the year 1755, the corporation of Liverpool, (which, perhaps, has diſtinguiſhed itſelf beyond any other ſimilar body in the kingdom for a liberal and ſpirited attention to commercial improvement) employed two perſons, Mr. Taylor of Mancheſter, and Mr. Eyes of Liverpool, to take ſurveys with a view of determining the practicability of joining the river Trent with the Weaver or Merſey, and thus opening an inland communication between the great ſea-ports of Liverpool and Hull. It was propoſed that this navigation ſhould go through the counties of Nottingham, Derby, Stafford, and Cheſter; and on an accurate ſurvey the deſign was reported to be practicable. The late Mr. Hardman, an intelligent merchant of Liverpool, and one of its repreſentatives in parliament, was the chief promoter of this ſurvey. Another ſurvey, under the patronage of the preſent marquis of Stafford, and the late lord Anſon, was made in 1758 by Mr. Brindley, and afterwards reviſed by him and Mr. Smeaton jointly; and their opinions were equally in favour of the projected undertaking. An union with the river Severn and port of Briſtol alſo became part of the deſign, which thus embraced the vaſt idea of connecting almoſt all the midland counties of England with each other, and with the different ſeas, by a chain of water communication. In the two plans offered to the public for effecting this purpoſe, one of the principal differences conſiſted in the manner of communicating with the Merſey. One propoſed doing this by terminating the canal in the navigable river Weaver at Winsford-bridge: the other, by terminating it in the duke of Bridgewater's canal at Preſton-brook. The latter, which was Mr. Brindley's

Brindley's plan, was preferred, apparently on reaſonable grounds, as it afforded a direct communication with Mancheſter, without the intervention of a ſingle lock. In December 1765, a numerous meeting of land-owners and perſons concerned in trade held at Wolſeley-bridge in Staffordſhire, agreed upon an application to parliament for leave to bring in a bill for making a navigable canal from the river Trent near Wilden-ferry in Derbyſhire, to the river Merſey near Runcorn-gap; and the bill was accordingly brought in and paſſed in 1766.

GRAND TRUNK CANAL.

This canal which, by its planner, was ingeniouſly termed the *grand trunk*, (in alluſion to the main artery of the body from whence branches are ſent off for the nouriſhment of the diſtant parts) and which is commonly known by the name of the *Staffordſhire* canal, takes its courſe from north-weſt to ſouth-eaſt, acroſs the county of Cheſter, and thence acroſs Staffordſhire beyond its middle, when, turning ſhort in a north-eaſtern direction parallel to the Trent, it accompanies that river into Derbyſhire, and enters it near the place where the high road from Derby to Leiceſter croſſes the Trent over a bridge, ſubſtituted to the former Wilden-ferry. In length it is ninety-three miles. Its fall of water from its greateſt elevation at Harecaſtle-hill, is 326 feet on the northern ſide, and 316 on the ſouthern; the former effected by thirty-five locks, the latter by forty. Six of the moſt ſouthern locks are fourteen feet wide, adapted to the navigation of large barges, and one of the northern is of the ſame width. The common dimenſions of the canal are twenty-nine feet breadth at the top, ſixteen at the bottom, and the depth four feet and a half; but in the part from Wilden to Burton, and from Middlewich to Preſton-on-the-hill, it is thirty-one feet broad at the top, eighteen

eighteen at the bottom, and five and half deep. The canal is carried over the Dove in an aqueduct of twenty-three arches, the ground being raiſed to a conſiderable height for the ſpace of a mile and two furlongs. Over the Trent it is carried by an aqueduct of ſix arches of twenty-one feet ſpan each; and over the Dane, on three arches of 20 feet ſpan. There are beſides near 160 leſſer aqueducts and culverts for the conveyance of brooks and ſmall ſtreams. The cart bridges erected over it are 109; the foot bridges eleven.

For the ſake of preſerving a level as much as poſſible, the hills and elevated grounds in the courſe of the canal have been pierced by five tunnels. Of theſe, that through the mountain at *Harecaſtle* is the principal, and has proved a work of vaſt labour and expenſe, in conſequence of unforeſeen difficulties. Its length is 2880 yards, with a width of nine feet, and a height of twelve, lined and arched with brick; and it runs more than ſeventy yards below the ſurface of the earth. The other tunnels are at *Hermitage*, 130 yards; at *Barnton*, in Great Budworth pariſh, 560 yards; at *Saltenford* in the ſame pariſh, 350 yards; and at *Preſton-on-the-hill*, 1241 yards. Each of theſe is ſeventeen feet four inches high, and thirteen feet ſix inches wide. The boats employed upon the canal carry about twenty-five tons, and are drawn by one horſe. The tonnage paid to the proprietors for the liberty of navigating is three-halfpence per mile. This great work was begun on July 17th, 1766. It was carried on with great ſpirit by Mr. Brindley while he lived, and was finiſhed by his brother-in-law, Mr. Henſhall, who put the laſt hand to it in May 1777.

Soon after this canal was undertaken, Mr. Brindley planned and executed a canal from the Grand Trunk at Haywood, to the river Severn near

near Bewdley; thus completing the communication between the three principal ports of the kingdom, (after London) thoſe of Briſtol, Liverpool, and Hull, and all the inland country lying between them.

As the Staffordſhire canal, or Grand Trunk, has a peculiar connection with the country which is comprized within the circuit of this work, it will be proper to ſtate the chief ſources of employment which it was expected to open, and the greater part of which have in effect accrued to it. They may be diſtributed into three heads: 1ſt. Natural products of the adjacent tracts of country.—2dly. Products of cultivation and manufacture.—3dly. Imported raw materials and objects of general commerce.

From Northwich to Lawton in Cheſhire lies a vaſt bed of rock ſalt, eſtimated at forty yards in thickneſs, which, beſide being purified for home and foreign conſumption, might, were liberty obtained for ſuch uſe, be employed to great advantage in agriculture and ſeveral of the arts depending on chymiſtry. At preſent, indeed, the Weaver navigation conveys to Liverpool all the rock ſalt wanted at that port; but the poſſeſſion of ſuch a ſtore on the banks of this canal may reaſonably be accounted an advantage for futurity.

The hill called Mole or Mow-cop near Lawton, contains ſeveral uſeful kinds of ſtone enumerated in the general account of Cheſhire. Theſe are already carried to great diſtances by land-carriage, and of courſe muſt be conveyed by the much cheaper medium of canal-navigation to the various parts near its courſe. Several other valuable ſpecies of ſtone are met with near the canal; as a fine free-ſtone near Wolſeley-bridge, and near Burton upon Trent; a whole mountain of lime-ſtone near the termination

mination of the canal, on which the village of Breden in Leiceſterſhire is built; lime-ſtone quarries of note at Tickenhall in Derbyſhire, and at Barrow in Leiceſterſhire; gypſum or alabaſter at Clay-hill. At Rudgeley is found the curious kind of coal called cannel, as well as other ſpecies of coal; and it is ſuppoſed that a ſubterraneous canal, like that of the duke of Bridgewater at Worſley, might be carried to the under-ſtrata of the mines, at the ſame time laying them dry, and affording a conveyance for their contents. Marl in large quantities would be thrown out in digging the canal, and might eaſily be procured cloſe to its banks; whence this, as well as other manures, will be cheaply conveyed along the courſe of the navigation to the lands which want it.

That kind of iron ore which is called iron ſtone, proper for making cold-ſhort iron, is contained abundantly in many parts of the country through which the canal runs. This has been found of great uſe for mixing with the red iron ore of Cumberland, in manufacturing the beſt tough iron, and has been conveyed by land-carriage to the Weaver in large quantities, in order to be ſhipped for the north for that purpoſe. It is to be preſumed that greater quantities of it will be ſent by the cheaper conveyance of the canal. Various other mineral products from diſtricts more remote may probably find their way to this navigation, which will carry them to works where they may be uſefully employed.

With reſpect to the products of culture, corn deſerves the firſt conſideration. The mutual advantage of conveying the products of the agricultural counties to the markets of the manufacturing towns, which can only be fed by means of diſtant ſupplies, and are enabled to pay the beſt prices, is obvious; and a cheap conveyance of the ſuperfluity of plentiful years to the ſea-ports for exportation is alſo a matter of

great

great conſequence to the farmer. The Staffordſhire and duke of Bridgewater's canal have derived a large ſhare of their employment from the tranſport of articles of proviſion, ſome of which have been carried in quantities beyond all previous calculation. Timber growing in the interior country, eſpecially oak for ſhip-building, cord-wood for charcoal, oak-bark for tanning, madder and woad for dying, muſt alſo from certain diſtances be brought to the canal for conveyance to the places of demand. The cheeſe of Cheſhire deſtined for the ſupply of Lancaſhire, as well as part of that intended for London, will naturally go by this road; as well as the manufactured ſalt of that county for the uſe of the inland diſtricts.

Of manufactures properly ſo called, the pottery wares, bricks, tiles, &c. of Burſlem and the other villages in Staffordſhire employed in that trade, being commodities of great weight in proportion to their value, will moſt certainly take the benefit of a canal running through the midſt of them, and communicating with ſuch an extenſive tract of country as well as with the ſea-ports. The ſame may be ſaid in ſome degree of the heavy metallic manufactures carried on to ſuch prodigious extent in Birmingham, Walſall, Wolverhampton, Dudley, &c. from whence the grand trunk receives communicating branches. The manufactures of Mancheſter rather concern the duke of Bridgewater's and the other Lancaſhire navigations; but thoſe of Derby, Nottingham, and Leiceſter will find their cheapeſt conveyance to Liverpool along the grand trunk. The ale of Burton, ſo much valued for exportation, may alſo be ſent to Liverpool by its means, as it has been to Hull by the Trent.

As to raw materials for the ſupply of manufactures, the flint ſtones and pipe-clay brought from vaſt diſtances coaſt-wiſe to the ports for the

uſe


CANAL
from
LIVERPOOL to LEEDS.
Scale of Miles
1 2 3 4 5
Garforth
Church Lawton
Broughton
Thorlby
Thornton
SKIPTON
Barnoldswick
Carlton
Salterforth
Woodtide
Bradley
Whalley
Kildwick
Read Hall
Eastburn
COLNE
Higham
Gt Harwood
Old Park Hall
Marsden
Aire River
YORKSHIRE
Huncote
Rosh Grove
BURNLEY
KEIGHLEY
Helwick
Bingley
Halsall
Park Gate
Heskayne
Martin Lane
Cottingley
Baildon
Down Holland
Rufford
Navigation
Shipley
Nether Yeaden
Lidiale
Burscough
Douglas
Gt Crosby
Calverley
Horsforth
Sephton
Aughton
ORMSKIRK
Maghull
Latham Hall
Woodhall
MERSEY RIVER
Newburgh
Brindle
Linacre
Wheelton
Withnell
Moat long Water
Warbreck Moor
Antrobe
CHORLEY
Heapy
BLACKBURN
Walton
Moorgate Fold
Grimshaw Park
LIVERPOOL
LANCASHIRE
Duxbury Hall
Dalton
Adlington
Standish
Up. Holland
Rivington
Blackrod
WIGAN
Haigh Hall
Kirkes Hall
Horwich
LEEDS
J. Mutlow, 6 James St.

uſe of the Staffordſhire potteries, and to which, from their ſmall value, the price of carriage is of peculiar conſequence, cannot but afford an abundant ſource of employment to the canal, to the mutual benefit of the carriers and manufacturers. Birmingham and its neighbourhood will alſo receive part of their ſupply of metals by the ſame conveyance. Of other imported goods, fir timber for building, mahogany for cabinet work, wine, ſpirits, and heavy groceries, will be ſent from the ſea-ports to the interior country along this and its communicating canals.

To this view of the expected and experienced benefits ariſing to the undertakers of this great ſcheme of inland navigation, and to the public, it is proper to add, that the ſyſtem of communication has ſince been rendered more complete by the junction of a branch paſſing from the great trunk to Coventry, with another proceeding from Oxford directly northwards through Oxfordſhire and Warwickſhire. Thus the firſt of our rivers, the Thames, and the firſt of our ports, that of the metropolis, have been added to the comprehenſive chain of canal-navigation; and it cannot be doubted that ſuch an acceſſion muſt be felt through every part of it. We ſhall now return to the limits of our own circle, to mark all the undertakings of this kind within its boundaries which ſucceeded thoſe of the duke of Bridgewater and of the Staffordſhire company.

LEEDS AND LIVERPOOL CANAL.

A navigation between the eaſtern and weſtern ſeas by means of the rivers Aire and Ribble, had for many years been thought of as a practicable and uſeful work, and ſome endeavours had been uſed to draw the public attention to it, but ineffectually. At length, the ſucceſs of the

the duke of Bridgewater's canals excited Mr. Longbotham in 1767 to conceive the deſign of making a communication between Leeds and the port of Liverpool by ſimilar means; and having made a ſurvey of the interjacent country, with plans and eſtimates of the propoſed work, he produced them before various public meetings in Yorkſhire and Lancaſhire, at which they were approved. Mr. Brindley was called in to determine on the ſcheme; and after ſurveying all the tract pointed out by Mr. Longbotham, he made his report in its favour at two numerous meetings held at Bradford and at Liverpool in December 1768. The plan was there adopted, and an act for carrying it into execution was obtained in the beginning of 1770, and the work was begun in the latter end of the ſame year.

This deſign was the greateſt and moſt adventurous that had then, or has ſince, been undertaken. The great direct diſtance between the two extremities, much augmented by the very winding courſe which the nature of the country demanded; together with the high elevation of the tract on the borders of the two counties, which the moſt circuitous courſe could only in part avoid; rendered the work ſo difficult and expenſive, that nothing but the extraordinary zeal with which ſchemes of this kind now began to be purſued, could have ſtimulated the perſons concerned to put it into execution. The whole length of the courſe from Leeds to Liverpool is 107 miles and three quarters: the fall from the central level is on the Lancaſhire ſide 525 feet; on the Yorkſhire, 446 feet. Its courſe is ſeen on the map. It may in general be remarked, that on the Liverpool ſide after making a large circuit round Ormſkirk, it croſſes the river Douglas, and proceeding north-eaſterly, runs for ſome miles parallel and near to the Ribble, then follows the courſe of the Lancaſhire Calder, which it croſſes and re-croſſes, till it arrives at its head in the

the great baſon of Fouridge, near Pendle-hill and the town of Colne. Thence, declining on the Leeds ſide, it runs north-eaſtward to the banks of the Aire near Gargrave, which river it croſſes, and afterwards cloſely accompanies in its whole courſe to Leeds, paſſing the towns of Skipton and Bingley. Of the two ſide-branches, that to Wigan is upwards of ſeven miles and a half, with a fall of thirty-ſix feet; that to Bradford is a little more than three miles, with a fall of eighty-ſeven feet ſix inches.

On a curſory ſurvey of the tract of country through which this canal paſſes, it will probably appear not extremely inviting to ſuch an undertaking upon the whole; it is but lightly peopled; and though the great towns at the oppoſite extremities abound in objects of commercial importance, yet their connection with each other is not very intimate, nor does it ſeem likely to be much promoted by ſuch a circuitous communication. Coal and lime-ſtone are the chief natural products of the intermediate country; and as the diſtricts abounding in the one often want the other, a conſiderable tranſport of theſe articles on the canal may be expected, as well as of other uſeful kinds of ſtone found in quarries near its courſe. That conſiderable benefits will accrue to the the country, from the canal, cannot be doubted; in particular, agricultural improvements of its waſte and barren tracts by means of the eaſier conveyance of lime and other manures may certainly be expected.

That part of the canal which goes from Liverpool to the Douglas, and thence, by a collateral branch (ſubſtituted to the old Douglas navigation) to Wigan, was finiſhed with great celerity, and has proved of great advantage to the proprietors, and to the town of Liverpool, by the new and plentiful ſupply of coals it has brought, which have cauſed a con-

a conſiderable exportation of that commodity from thence. The part adjacent to Leedswas likewiſe ſoon finiſhed to the extent of ſeveral miles. By another act paſſed in 1783, liberty was obtained by the proprietors to purchaſe the Douglas river-navigation; and by a third in 1790, a power was given to raiſe an additional ſum of money, and alſo to make a variation in the courſe of the canal.

A further and much more conſiderable variation in the courſe of the canal, projected in conſequence of the interference of the new Lancaſter canal, was permitted by an act paſſed in May 1794. By this a deviation begins from Barrowford in the townſhip of Whalley, and taking a more ſouthern line than the former, paſſes through Burnley, Accrington, Blackburn, Chorley, Adlington, Blackrod, Weſt Houghton, Ince, and ſo to Wigan. This line will form a longer and more circuitous courſe, but will go through the centre of a country full of manufactures, and abounding in coal.

CHESTERFIELD CANAL.

In 1769 Mr. Brindley ſurveyed the courſe of an intended canal from the town of Cheſterfield to the river Trent; and in 1770 an act was obtained for putting his plan into execution. The tract of the canal is by Stavely forge and coal-works, to Harthill, which it penetrates by a tunnel, thence to Workſop, to Retford, where it croſſes the Idle, and at length to the Trent, which it enters at Stockwith, a little below Gainſborough. Its whole length is forty-ſix miles: its riſe from Cheſterfield to Norwood is forty-five feet, and its fall from thence to the Trent 335 feet, for which it has ſixty-five locks. The tunnel at Norwood through Harthill is 2850 yards; and that at Drake-hole 153 yards. The canal was completed ſo as to be navigated in 1776; but the

the expenſe of the work, amounting to 60,000*l.* was ſo much beyond the eſtimate, that ſhares fell to a very depreciated value; and though they have lately recovered themſelves conſiderably, they are ſtill below par. The principal trade on the canal is the conveyance of coal, got near Cheſterfield, and ſent to Workſop and Retford, and by the Trent to Gainſborough and Lincoln. Lead is the next valuable article, of which a large quantity, the produce of the Derbyſhire mines, is exported by its means. Wrought iron, pottery, and a few manufactured goods are alſo carried downwards upon it. The carriage upwards conſiſts in large quantities of corn, lime, timber, groceries, &c.

CHESTER CANAL.

The ancient port of Cheſter had long ſeen her younger rival, Liverpool, opening new ſources to her extenſive traffic, without any exertion to obtain a ſhare in ſimilar benefits. But in the years 1767, 1769, and 1770, the courſe of a canal from thence to the midland parts of the county was ſurveyed by different engineers, and after an unſucceſsful attempt in 1769, an act was obtained in 1772 for making a navigable canal from Cheſter to the towns of Namptwich and Middlewich, but with the reſtriction, that it ſhould not at the latter town join the Grand Trunk canal, which flows by it. Such a reſtriction, the fruit of a monopolizing ſpirit, though a manifeſt diſadvantage to the ſcheme, did not prevent the execution of a great part of it. The canal to Namptwich was completed at the unforeſeen expenſe of 80,000*l.* Its length is eighteen miles; its riſe from Cheſter 170 feet ten inches. For want of money the branch to Middlewich was never cut; and thus the principal objects of the undertaking, the carriage of ſalt from that place to Cheſter, and the communication (though not by abſolute junction)

tion) with the Grand Trunk, being never effected, the ſcheme has proved more totally abortive than any other in the kingdom. Its employment, at preſent, is not ſufficient to keep it in repair, and ſhares have been ſold at one per cent. of the original coſt. There is now, however, ſome proſpect of connecting it with the eaſtern line of the newly undertaken Shrewſbury canal, which may give an extenſion to its buſineſs.

HUDDERSFIELD CANAL TO THE CALDER.

The manufacturing town of Huddersfield has obtained the advantage of a communication by canal with the river Calder. In 1774 an act paſſed enabling Sir John Ramſden, Bart. (proprietor of the town of Huddersfield) to make a canal from the Calder at Cooper's-bridge, where the river Colne falls into it, to King's-mill, near the town of Huddersfield. This has been executed, and is eight miles in length, with a fall of fifty-ſix feet ten inches divided into nine locks. It opens a communication with Hull and all its aſſociated rivers and canals, and its benefits are manifeſt.

LANGLEY-BRIDGE, OR ERREWASH CANAL.

Another Derbyſhire canal, which it is proper to mention for the ſake of connection, though out of the limits of our work, is that called Langley-bridge or Errewaſh canal. In 1777, the owners of the extenſive coal-mines lying in the ſouth-eaſtern part of the county, obtained an act for making a navigable canal from Langley-bridge to the Trent oppoſite to the entrance of the Soar near Sawley-ferry. It begins in the pariſh of Heanor, and runs very near and parallel to the little

little boundary river Errewaſh in the greateſt part of its courſe, paſſing through the above-mentioned collieries. Its length is eleven miles and a quarter; its fall, 108 feet eight inches, by means of fourteen locks. It furniſhes an additional ſupply of coals to the diſtricts bordering the Trent.

MANCHESTER, BOLTON, AND BURY CANAL.

The vaſt extenſion of the Mancheſter manufactures after the peace of 1783, gave riſe to various new ſchemes of water communication between the centre of that traffic and its principal ſtations in the ſurrounding country. The firſt of theſe was a canal from Mancheſter to Bolton with a branch to Bury, for which an act was obtained in 1791. It begins on the weſtern ſide of Mancheſter from the river Irwell, to which it runs nearly parallel in a northerly courſe, croſſing it at Clifton, and again near Little Lever, where its two branches, to Bolton and to Bury, ſeparate. Its total length is fifteen miles one furlong, with a riſe of 187 feet. The country with which this canal opens a communication, abounds in coals, together with other mineral products, which will by its means obtain a cheap and eaſy conveyance to the town and neighbourhood of Mancheſter. Mercantile goods, raw and manufactured, may alſo be expected to afford much carriage in this populous tract of country.

MANCHESTER, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, AND OLDHAM.

In 1792 an act was granted for making a canal from Mancheſter to Aſhton-under-Lyne, and to the neighbourhood of Oldham. This commences from the eaſt ſide of Mancheſter, croſſes the Medlock, paſſes Fairfield, and terminates at Aſhton-under-Lyne. At Fairfield a branch goes

goes off to the New Mill near Oldham; from this there is a cut to Park Colliery. The whole length of the canal is eleven miles, and its riſe is 152 feet. Coal, lime, lime-ſtone, and other minerals, and manure, are its principal objects of carriage. The two above-mentioned undertakings are nearly completed. A branch is intended to go from this canal to Stockport, a town which has hitherto been ſomewhat unaccountably fruſtrated of the benefits of water communication, though an extenſion to it was included in the powers firſt granted to the duke of Bridgewater.

A connection between Mancheſter and Rochdale by canals has been a matter of much diſcuſſion, and different plans have been propoſed, and met with their abettors and opponents. One of theſe was an extenſion of the Bury canal, the diſtance from which town to Rochdale is not conſiderable: but this plan was given up for a deſign of much greater magnitude, which, in effect, is another junction of the eaſt and weſt ſeas.

ROCHDALE CANAL.

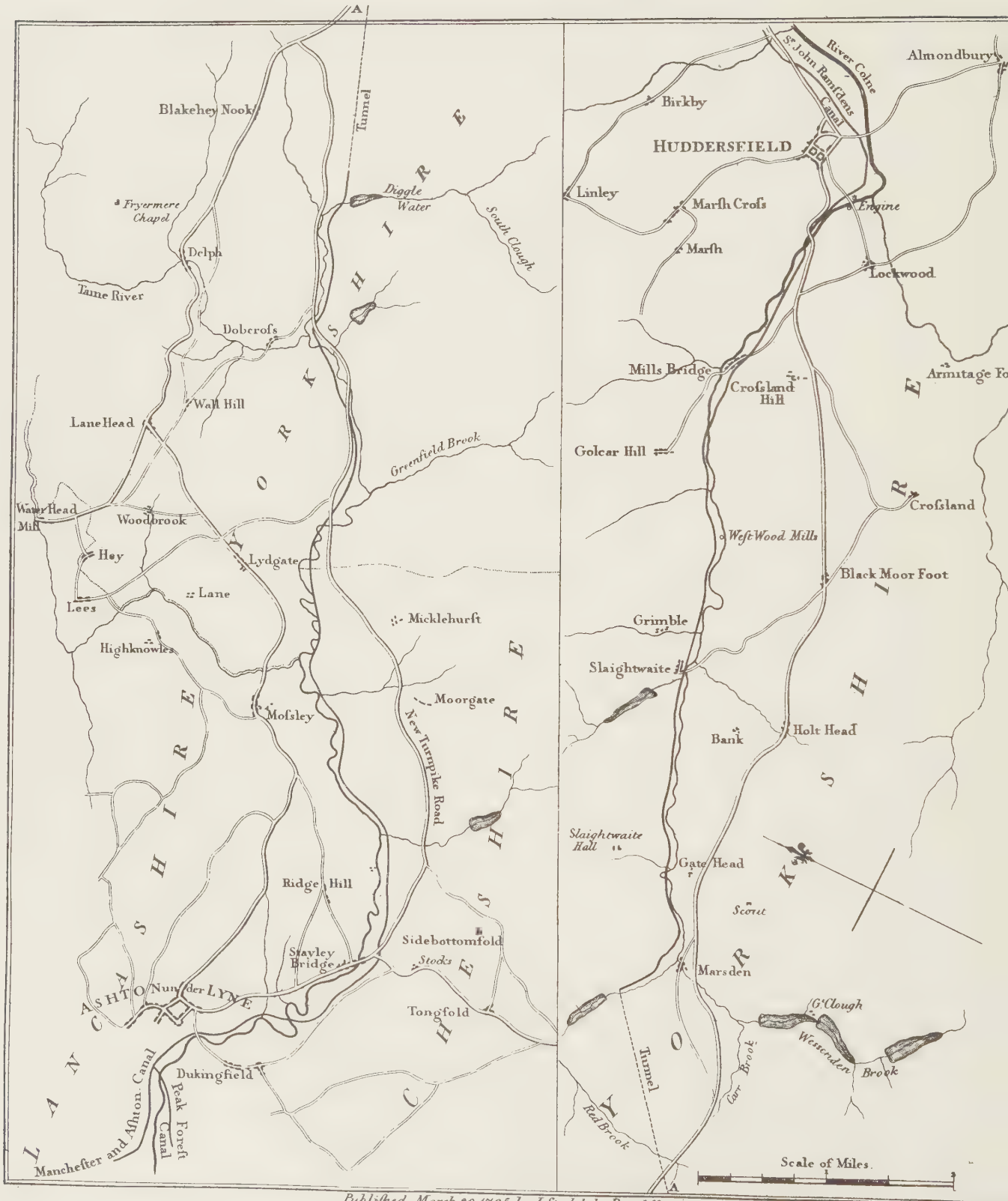
An act paſſed in April 1794 authorizes the opening of a navigation from the duke of Bridgewater's canal at Mancheſter, to the Calder navigation at Sowerby-bridge near Halifax. Beginning from the ſouth-weſt ſide of Mancheſter, it leaves that town at the north-eaſt corner, and takes its courſe nearly parallel to the Oldham road as far as Failſworth. Here it turns directly north, and proceeds through the tract of coal country about Fox Denton, Chaderton, Middleton, and Hopwood, to a ſmall diſtance to the eaſt of Rochdale, whence it ſends off a ſhort branch to that town. Having paſſed Littleborough it gains its head level about Dean-head. It was originally intended to enter the hill at this place



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I. Mutlow Sc

A PLAN of the CANAL *from* HUDDERSFIELD *to* ASHTON *under* LYNE.



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I. Mudow Sc.

place by a tunnel, but this is now avoided. Hence it proceeds to Todmorden, where it turns north-eaſt to Hebden-bridge, and then bends ſomewhat to the ſouth-eaſt, till it reaches the Calder navigation at Sowerby-bridge, having during the latter part of its courſe cloſely accompanied the river Calder. Its whole length from one extremity to the other is thirty-one miles and a half; that of two ſhort collateral branches, about a mile and quarter. From its head level it falls 275 feet on the Halifax ſide: 438 feet ſeven inches, on the Mancheſter ſide. In order fully to obviate an objection which was the cauſe of a ſtrong oppoſition to it—the danger of cutting off thoſe ſtreams which feed the river Irk, by which the ſchool-mills at Mancheſter are worked, as well as thoſe which feed the mills on the Roach and Calder—great reſervoirs have been made in the hilly country near different parts of its courſe, abundantly ſufficient to ſupply all the waſte of locks or leakage, without borrowing from any of the above-mentioned ſtreams. The advantages ſtated to be expected from this deſign, are thoſe of a complete canal-navigation from ſea to ſea, a communication of import and export between the ports of Liverpool, Briſtol, and Hull, and the populous and manufacturing towns of Rochdale, Halifax, Oldham, and their vicinities, and a general mutual communication between theſe diſtricts and all the other great manufacturing places viſited by the canals with which this is mediately or immediately connected. The work is at this time carrying on with celerity and ſucceſs.

HUDDERSFIELD CANAL TO ASHTON.

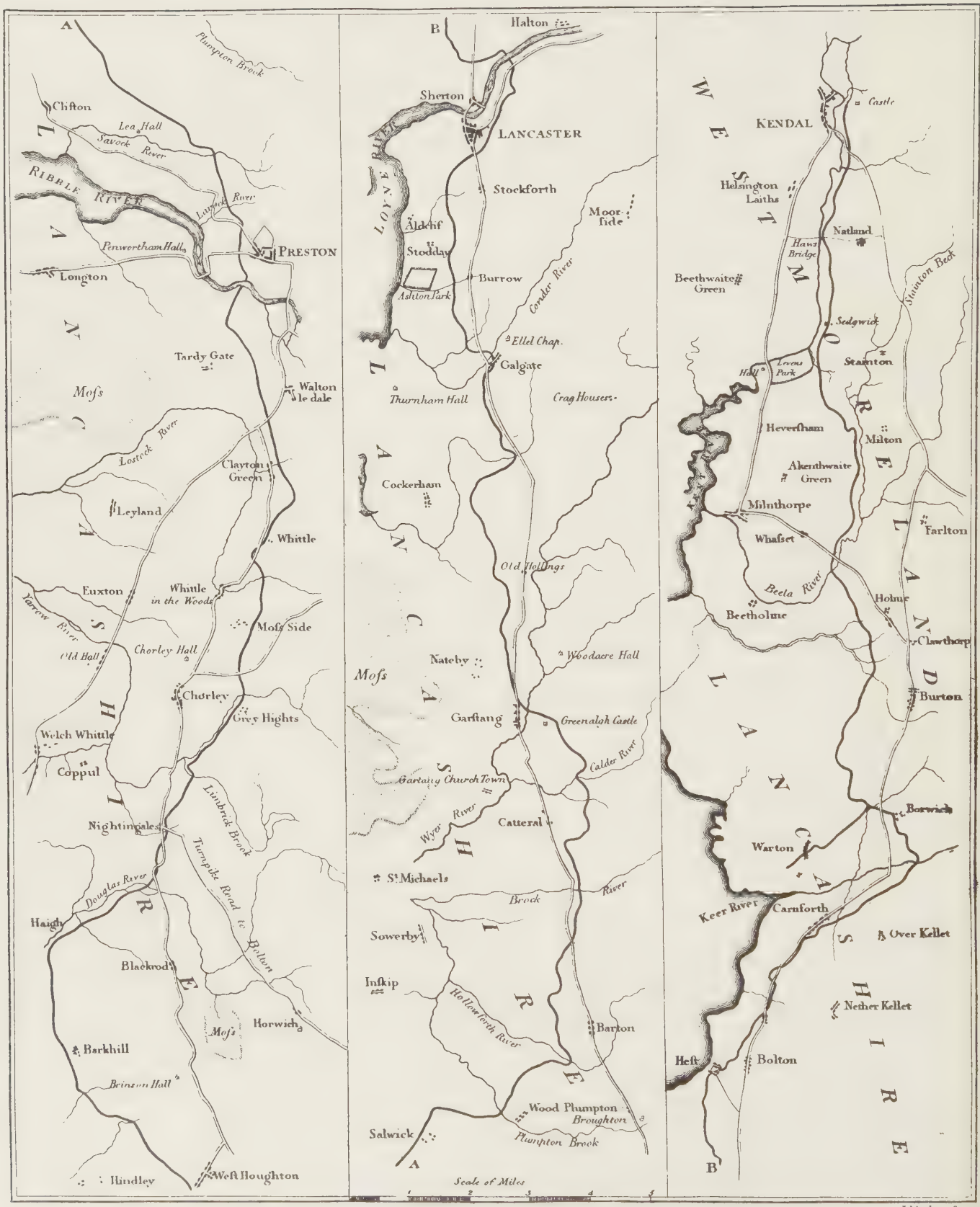
So active was now become the ſpirit of adventure, that another communication between the two ſeas, paſſing through a line of country ſomewhat to the ſouth of the former, was undertaken. This is the Huddersfield canal, the act for which paſſed in April 1794. Its two extremi-

extremities are the Aſhton-under-Lyne canal on the weſtern ſide, and Sir John Ramſden's canal to the Calder on the eaſtern. Its general direction is north-eaſt. From Aſhton it takes its courſe parallel to the Tame, often croſſing its windings, by Stayley-bridge, and enters Yorkſhire in the manufacturing townſhip of Saddleworth. Arriving at its head level, it penetrates the high grounds by a tunnel of three miles in length, paſſing beneath Pule Moſs, and coming out near Marſden: thence it proceeds by Slaighthwaite to Huddersfield, cloſely accompanying, and often croſſing, the Coln. Its extreme length is nineteen miles and near three quarters; its fall from the head level is 436 feet on the Huddersfield ſide, and 334 feet eight inches on the Aſhton ſide. Several of the little brooks in the hills are widened into reſervoirs for its ſupply of water. This navigation claims ſimilar advantages with the Rochdale canal with reſpect to general communication; and as it paſſes through one of the moſt populous tracts of the clothing country, it may expect a proportionate ſhare of employment in the export and import of raw materials, manufactured goods, and other articles. The ſupply of lime to the lands in its courſe is alſo likely to be very beneficial in promoting agricultural improvements.

PEAK-FOREST CANAL.

Another newly projected canal, called the Peak-foreſt, the act for which paſſed in March 1794, will augment the communications of the preceding navigation, as well as of the general ſyſtem. It proceeds from Milton near Chapel-le-Frith in the Peak of Derbyſhire, and entering Cheſhire near Whalley-bridge (to which a branch is carried) croſſes its eaſtern horn by Diſley, Marple, Mellor, and Chadkirk, and joins the Aſhton-under-Lyne canal near Dukinfield-bridge. The great object of this undertaking is to convey at a cheap rate the lime with which

LANCASTER CANAL.



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I. Mutlow Sc.

which that part of the peak is ſtored, to all the country of Cheſhire, Yorkſhire, and Lancaſhire, with which the canal communicates.

CROMFORD CANAL.

A new canal, which commences within the limits of our circle in Derbyſhire, begins at Cromford, and running ſome way parallel to the Derwent, paſſes Critch Frithley, Todmoor, Heage, and Heynor, and joins the Errewaſh canal at Langley-bridge. Its total length is about fourteen miles, of which the firſt eleven are level; the latter three have a fall of about eighty feet. There is a collateral cut to ſome coal-works upon the level, about three miles in length. Beſides ſeveral ſmall tunnels, there is one on this canal of about 3000 yards. By this navigation a water communication is eſtabliſhed between the centre of Derbyſhire and the Trent; and the reciprocal conveyance of coal and other mineral productions, as well as merchant-goods, to the ſeveral connected parts, cannot fail of being highly beneficial to the whole tract. Some of the moſt important articles to be expected, are raw materials to, and manufactured goods from, the very extenſive cotton works of Mr. Arkwright at Cromford, near Matlock, and Holme, near Bakewell; Mr. Strutt's large cotton factory at Belper; and another at Wirkſworth; the carriage of pigs of lead from different works; and the buſineſs of the iron-forge at Critch-chaſe on the Derwent.

While theſe additional communications between the eaſt and weſt ſeas, and different parts of the interjacent country, were projecting, a new and ſingular deſign was ſet on foot of carrying a canal from Weſtmoreland to the centre of Lancaſhire in a line parallel to the ſea-coaſt.

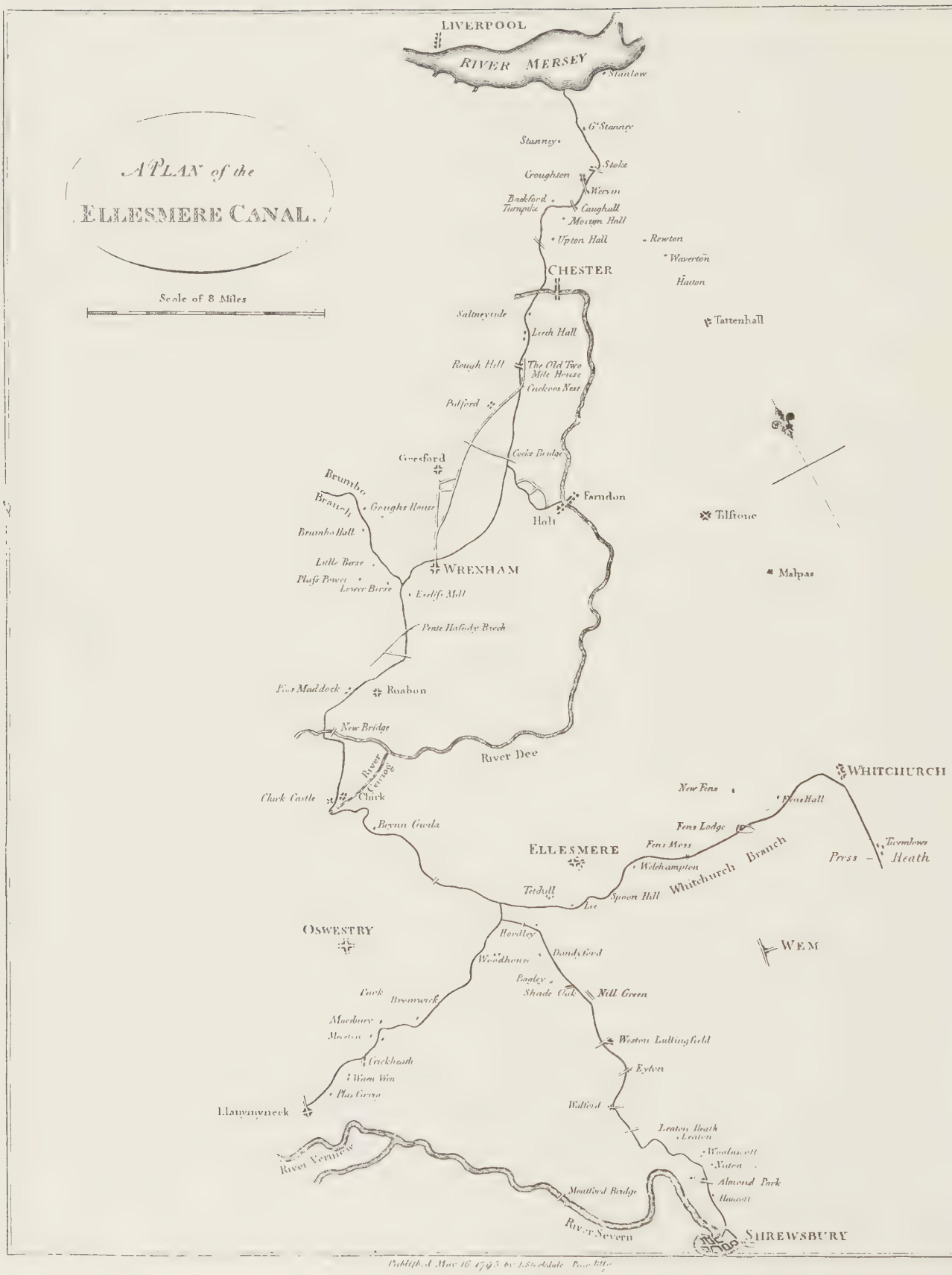
LANCASTER CANAL.

The Lancaſter canal, for which an act was obtained in 1792, commences at Kendal, having a feeder from a rivulet about a mile beyond the

the town. It proceeds directly ſouthwards, and enters Lancaſhire near Burton, having paſſed under ground for about half a mile, near midway. At Borwick, a little ſouth of Burton, it ſinks to its mid-level, which it preſerves for more than forty-two miles, making for this purpoſe a very winding courſe, in ſome places approaching almoſt cloſe to the ſea-beach. It croſſes the Loyne a little above Lancaſter in a magnificent aqueduct, and paſſes by the eaſt and ſouth of that town. At Garſtang it croſſes the Wyre, and having made a bend weſtward, by which it is brought within two miles of Kirkham, it next paſſes the weſtern ſide of Preſton, and croſſes the Ribble. Aſcending then through a ſeries of locks, it croſſes the Leeds and Liverpool canal, and reaches its higheſt level, on which it proceeds a little to the eaſtward of Chorley, acroſs the Douglas, through Haigh, (noted for its cannel pits) and bending to the eaſt of Wigan, arrives at its termination at Weſt Houghton. The whole of this courſe is ſeventy-five miles and upwards of five furlongs. The fall from Kendal to the mid-level is ſixty-five feet; and the riſe from thence on the ſouthern ſide, 222 feet. A collateral cut in the neighbourhood of Chorley is near three miles in length; and another near Borwick is near two miles and a half.

The principal objects of this canal are to make an interchange of product between the coal and lime-ſtone countries, and to form a communication between the port of Lancaſter and the interior parts to the north and ſouth. All the country north of Chorley is deſtitute of coal, with which it has hitherto been ſupplied either by a burthenſome land-carriage, or by a coaſt-wiſe navigation by means of the Douglas canal to the mouth of the Ribble. The preſent canal, in its tract from Chorley to Weſt-Houghton, paſſes through a country replete with inexhauſtible ſtores of coal of various ſpecies. On the other hand, the

country



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country for ſixteen miles to the ſouth of Kendal is full of lime-ſtone, of which all the northern part of Lancaſhire is deſtitute. The port of Lancaſter, having a large importation of cotton as well as other foreign merchandize, will be enabled to convey its commodities on eaſy terms to various populous and manufacturing places in the courſe of this canal. A conſiderable part of this deſign is completed.

ELLESMERE CANAL.

We have only one other navigation to mention, the termination of which is within our boundaries. It forms a direct junction between the Severn, and the Dee and Merſey, and is commonly called the Elleſmere canal. The act for it paſſed in April 1793. Taking its riſe at Shrewſbury, it firſt bends to the north-weſt, paſſing near Elleſmere and Chirk, to the river Dee, which it croſſes; and then turning north-eaſt, it goes by Ruabon and Wrexham, to the city of Cheſter, which it paſſes on the weſt ſide, communicating with the navigable channel of the Dee. Hence it takes its courſe acroſs the neck of the peninſula of Wirral, to the eſtuary of the Merſey. The whole length of this intended canal is fifty-five miles and a half; viz. from the Severn to the Dee at Cheſter, forty-ſeven miles; from the Dee to the Merſey, about eight miles and a half. Several collateral branches are projected, viz. to Llanymynech, ten miles; to Whitchurch, ſixteen miles ſix furlongs; to Brumbo collieries, three miles; to Holt, three miles and a quarter. It will communicate with many extenſive collieries, lime-ſtone, blue ſlate, and other quarries, iron-works, and lead-mines. It will connect three conſiderable rivers; the town of Shrewſbury with the ports of Cheſter and Liverpool, and theſe with each other; and will provide a large tract of intermediate country, with all the uſual advantages of an inland navigation, of which it is at preſent deſtitute.

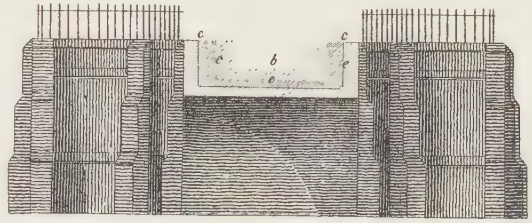
Of

Of the vaſt and multifarious deſigns above deſcribed, which a few late years have ſpread over this tract of country, all may be ſaid to be in a ſtate either of completion or of progreſs, though in different degrees. Of ſome, the immediate benefits are ſo apparent, that they have ſtimulated the undertakers to the moſt vigorous exertions. Others, which have great difficulties to encounter, and the objects and advantages of which have, perhaps, not been ſo deciſively conſidered, will probably require many years for their complete execution; nor is it unlikely that various deviations from the original plans may be made during the progreſs of the works. Competitions and interferences have ariſen between the different undertakings, in proportion as the number of them has increaſed, by which the proſpects of advantage which at firſt offered themſelves to the projectors have materially altered. In particular, the moſt extenſive of all the deſigns, the Leeds and Liverpool canal, ſince its commencement, has felt the rivalry of two nearer communications between the eaſt and weſt ſeas, and of a readier conveyance of coal from the middle to the northern parts of Lancaſhire; on which account a conſiderable variation of its courſe has been propoſed, as already mentioned.

Meantime, the prodigious additions made within a few years to the ſyſtem of inland navigation, now extended to almoſt every corner of the kingdom, cannot but impreſs the mind with magnificent ideas of the opulence, the ſpirit, and the enlarged views which characterize the commercial intereſt of this country. Nothing ſeems too bold for it to undertake, too difficult for it to atchieve; and ſhould no external changes produce a durable check to the national proſperity, its future progreſs is beyond the reach of calculation. Yet experience may teach us, that the ſpirit of project and ſpeculation is not always the ſource

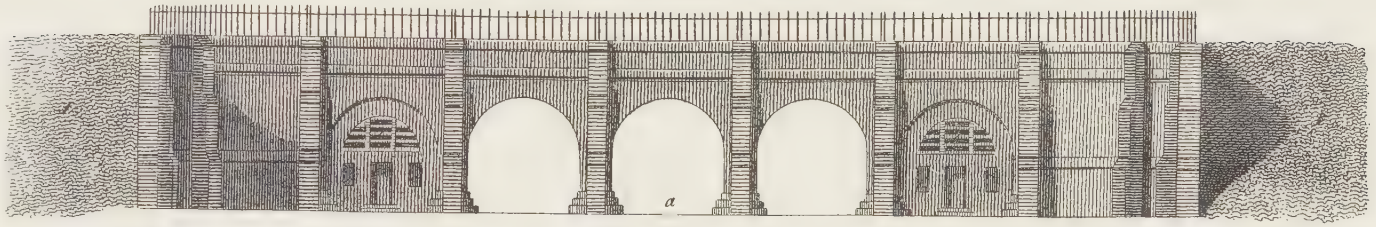
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Aqueduct for a Canal.

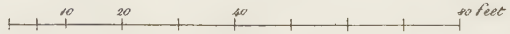


Section

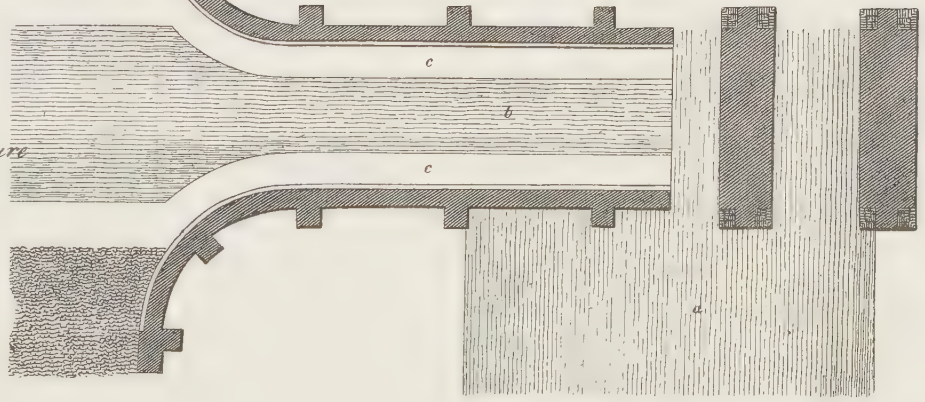
Elevation



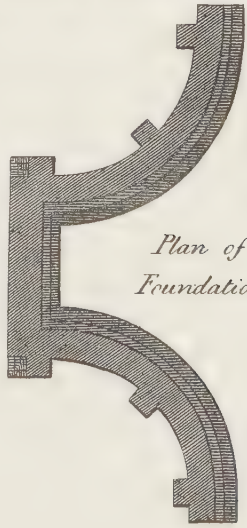
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Plan of Superstructure

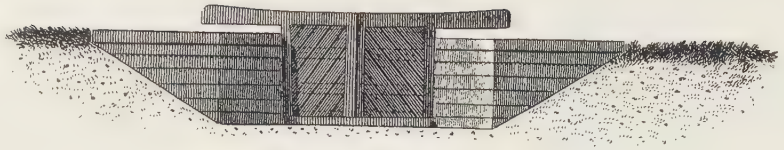


Plan of Foundation

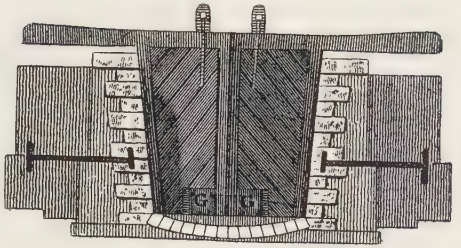


Lock for a Canal.

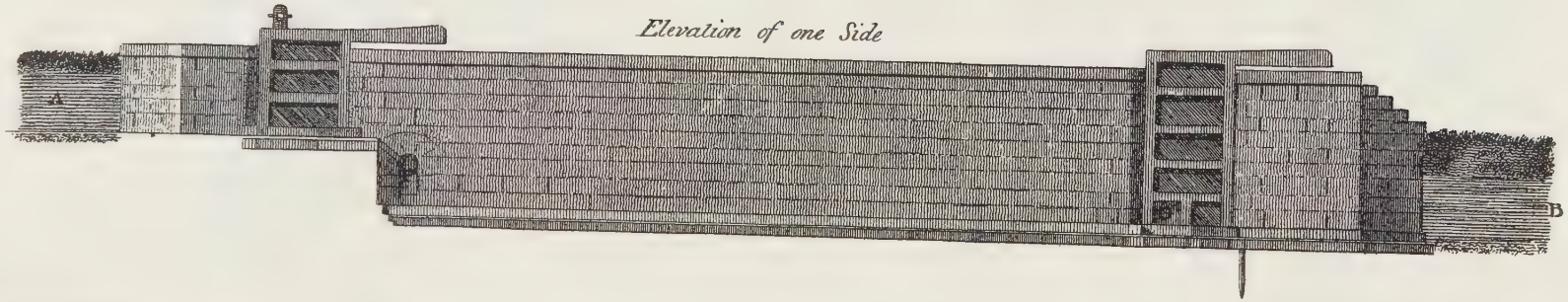
Upper Gates



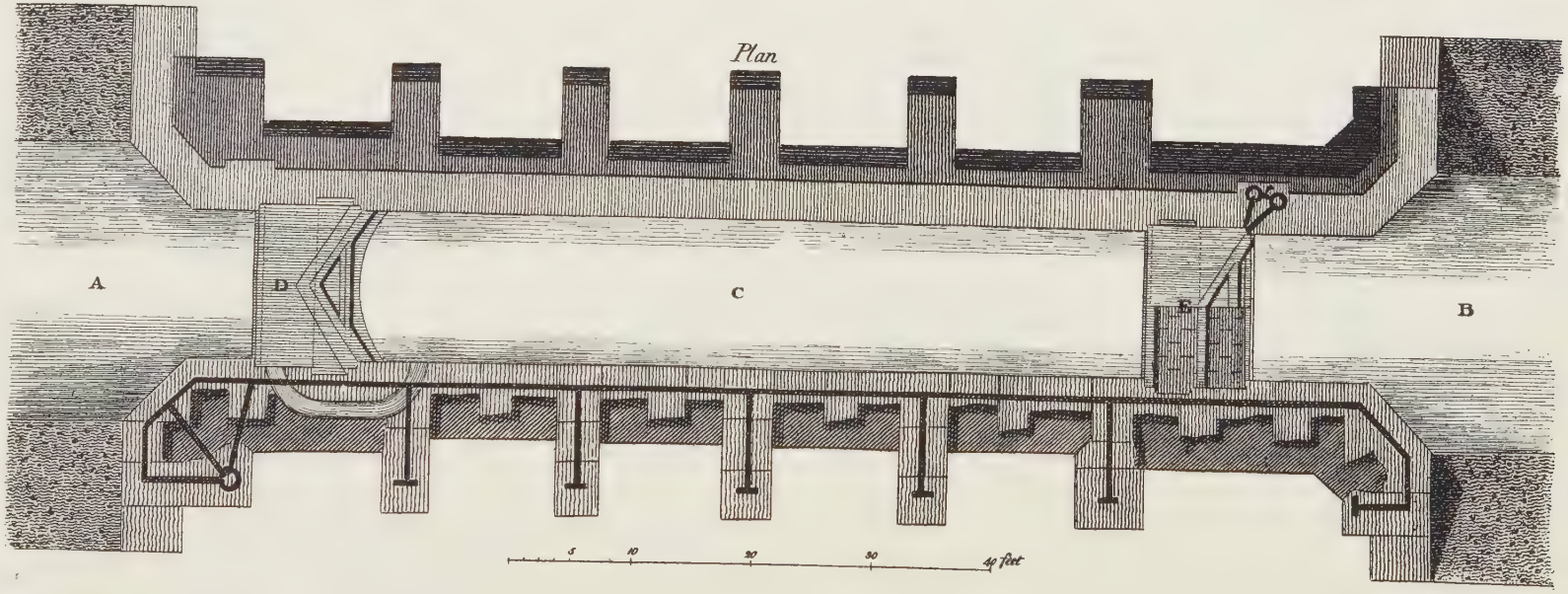
Lower Gates



Elevation of one Side



Plan



of ſolid advantage, and poſſibly the unbounded extenſion of canal navigation may in part have its ſource in the paſſion for bold and precarious adventure, which ſcorns to be limited by reaſonable calculations of profit. Nothing but highly flouriſhing manufactures can repay the vaſt expenſe of theſe deſigns. The town of Mancheſter, when the plans now under execution are finiſhed, will probably enjoy more various water-communications than the moſt commercial town of the Low Countries has ever done. And inſtead of cutting them through level tracts, ſo as only to make a wider ditch, its canals are carried over mountainous diſtricts, where the ſole method of avoiding the difficulties of ſteep aſcent and deſcent, has been to bore through the very heart of hills, and navigate for miles within the bowels of the earth. At the beginning of this century it was thought a moſt arduous taſk to make a *high road* practicable for carriages over the hills and moors which ſeparate Yorkſhire from Lancaſhire; and now they are pierced through by *three navigable canals!* Long may it remain the centre of a trade capable of maintaining theſe mighty works!

It has been thought proper to add to this chapter ſome plates illuſtrative of canal navigation, with their explanations, from *Mr. Phillips's Hiſtory of Inland Navigation.*

DESCRIPTION *of Plate I. which ſhews the* PLAN, *&c. of a* LOCK *for a* CANAL.

A. The upper water of the canal.
B. Lower ditto.
C. Chamber of the lock.
D. The platforms on which the upper gates are hung.

E. The

E. The lower ditto, ſhewing the manner of conſtruction.

F. Sluices through which the water paſſes into the chamber, to raiſe it equal with the upper level.

G. Paddles in the gates, to reduce the water to the lower level. There is a *chain-bar*, run with lead in a courſe of ſtone, ſet at water level.

Plate II. ſhews a deſign for an aqueduct which croſſes a river the width of the three centre arches; and, to occupy the remaining ſpace uſefully, the extreme arches are converted into warehouſes.

a. The river. b. The canal. c. Towing-path. d. Warehouſes. e. A bed (technically a *punn*) of clay, to prevent the water weeping through the arches. f. The canal continued by embankment.

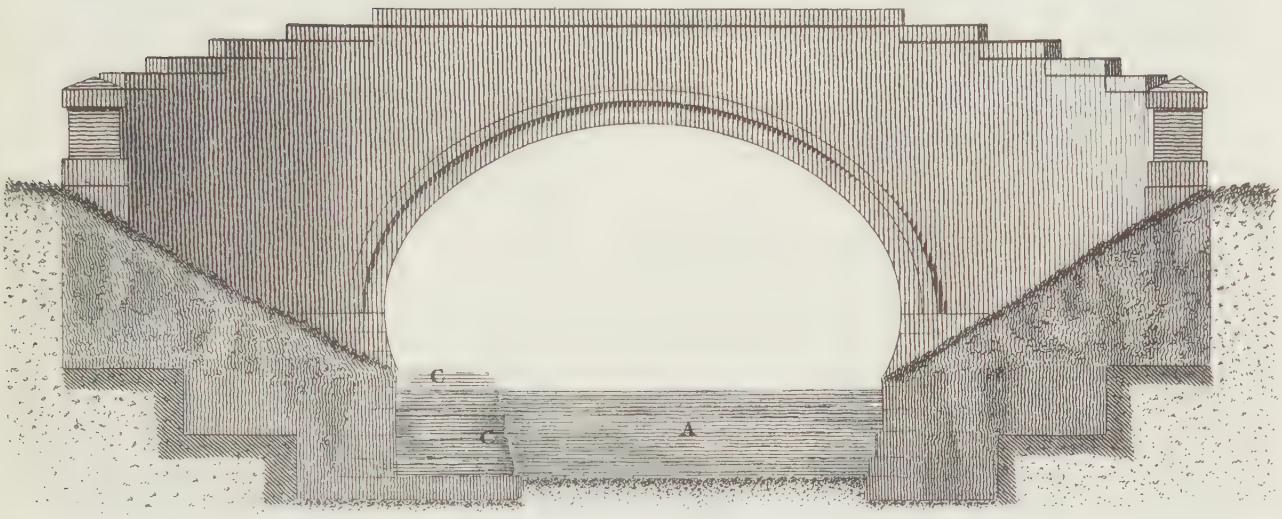
Plate III. *Elevation, &c. of a bridge.*

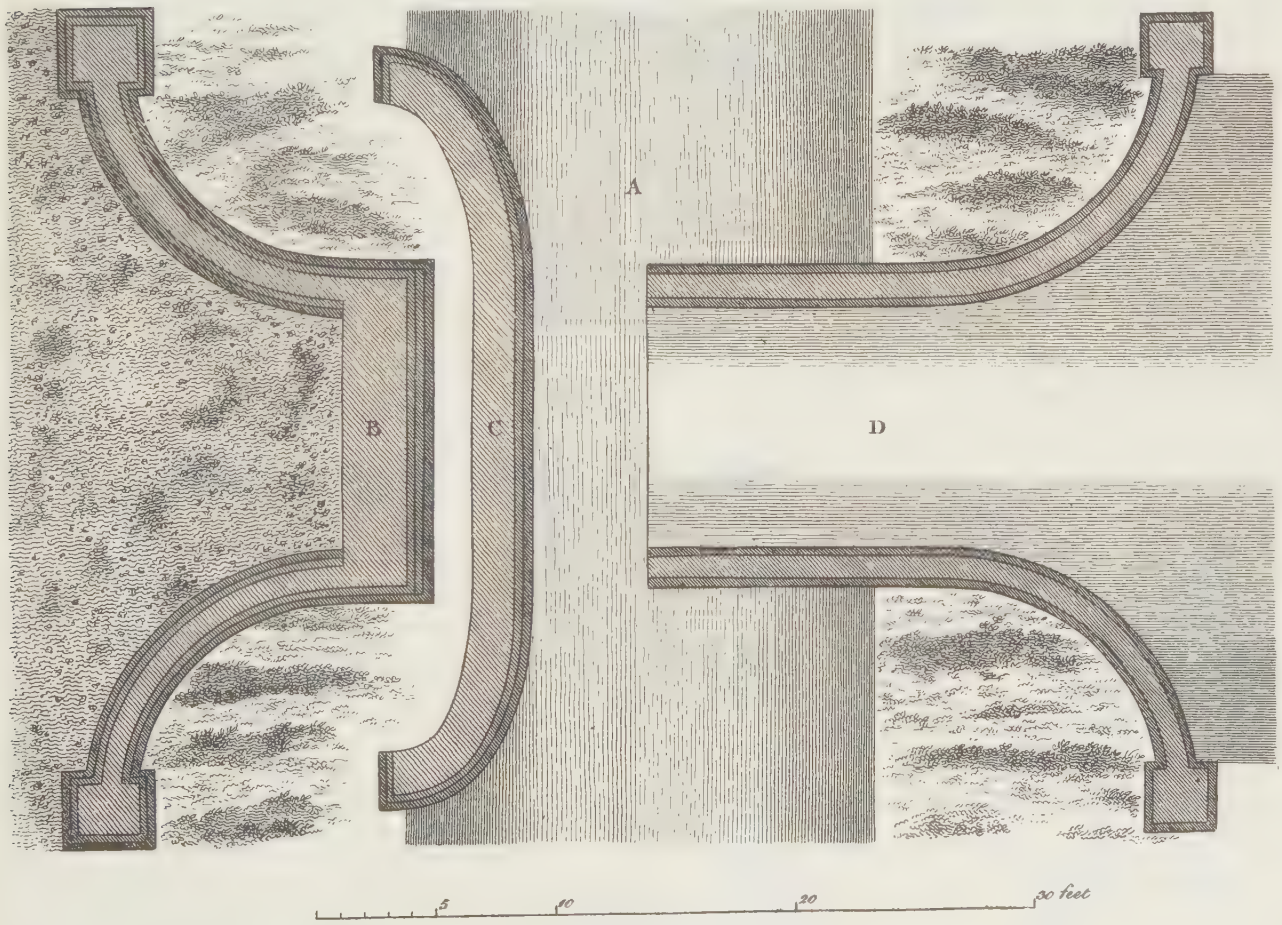
a. The canal. b. Plan of the foundation. c. Towing-path under the bridge. d. Plan of the ſuperſtructure.

Alſo, a canal in its courſe often divides lands with which ſome communication is neceſſary for the purpoſes of huſbandry. The eaſieſt method is ſhewn on plate IV. This is called *an accommodation bridge*. It hangs by large hooks and eyes, or hinges, and is worked up and down with eaſe, by means of the balance poles. This view alſo ſhews a towing-path gate, which is uſed for dividing grounds, and is hung ſo as always to fall to.

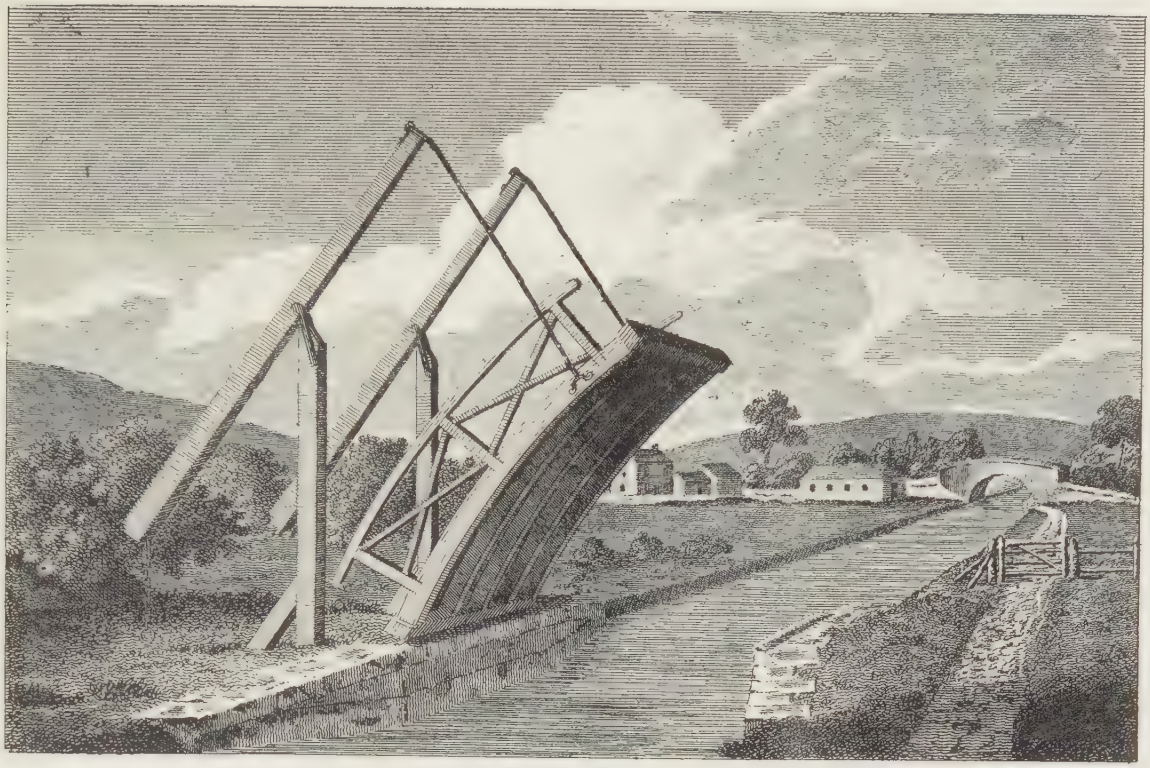
A bio-

Bridge for a Canal.

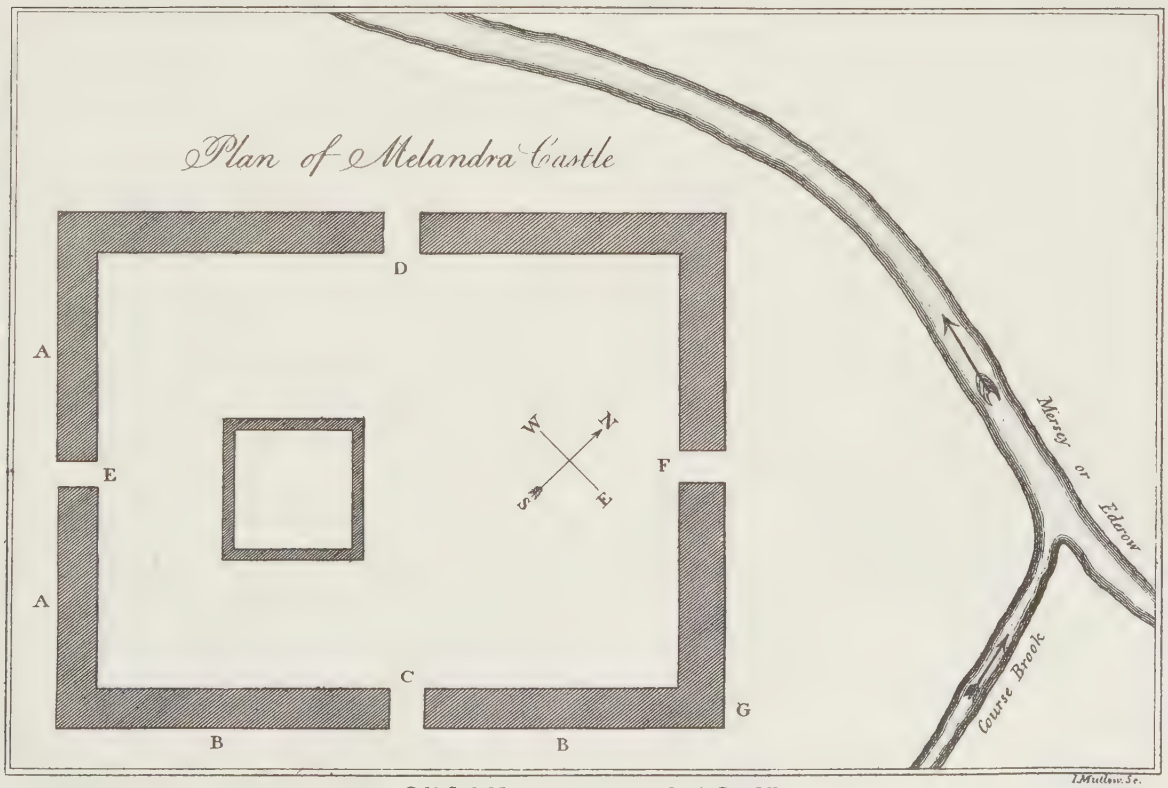




Publish'd Dec.r 22.1794. by I. Stockdale. Piccadilly.



Accommodation Bridge for a Canal.



I. Mullow Sc.

Published May 27. 1795. by I. Stockdale, Piccadilly.

A biographical account of the late celebrated *Brindley* properly belongs to this work, as he was born within the limits of its inquiries; but from the intimate connection between his life and the ſyſtem of canal navigation, it is imagined that ſuch an account will be read with more intereſt and advantage in this place, than where it would have come in according to the order of the work.

ACCOUNT OF MR. BRINDLEY.

JAMES BRINDLEY was born at Tunſted in the pariſh of Wormhill, Derbyſhire, in 1716. His father was a ſmall freeholder, who diſſipated his property in company and field-amuſements, and neglected his family. In conſequence, young Brindley was left deſtitute of even the common rudiments of education, and till the age of ſeventeen was caſually employed in ruſtic labours. At that period he bound himſelf apprentice to one Bennet, a mill-wright, at Macclesfield, in Cheſhire, where his mechanical genius preſently developed itſelf. The maſter being frequently abſent, the apprentice was often left for weeks together to finiſh pieces of work concerning which he had received no inſtruction; and Bennet on his return was often greatly aſtoniſhed to ſee improvements in various parts of mechaniſm of which he had no previous conception. It was not long before the millers diſcovered Brindley's merits, and preferred him in the execution of their orders to the maſter or any other workman. At the expiration of his ſervitude, Bennet being grown into years, he took the management of the buſineſs upon himſelf;

himſelf; and by his ſkill and induſtry contributed to ſupport his old maſter and his family in a comfortable manner.

In proceſs of time, Brindley ſet up as a mill-wright on his own account, and by a number of new and ingenious contrivances greatly improved that branch of mechanics, and acquired a high reputation in the neighbourhood. His fame extending to a wider circle, he was employed in 1752 to erect a water-engine at Clifton, in Lancaſhire, for the purpoſe of draining ſome coal-mines. Here he gave an eſſay of his abilities in a kind of work for which he was afterwards ſo much diſtinguiſhed, driving a tunnel under ground through a rock nearly 600 yards in length, by which water was brought out of the Irwell for the purpoſe of turning a wheel fixed thirty feet below the ſurface of the earth. In 1755 he was employed to execute the larger wheels for a ſilk mill at Congleton; and another perſon, who was engaged to make other parts of the machinery, and to ſuperintend the whole, proving incapable of completing the work, the buſineſs was entirely committed to Brindley; who not only executed the original plan in a maſterly manner, but made the addition of many curious and valuable improvements, as well in the conſtruction of the engine itſelf, as in the method of making the wheels and pinions belonging to it. About this time, too, the mills for grinding flints in the Staffordſhire potteries received various uſeful improvements from his ingenuity.

In the year 1756 he undertook to erect a ſteam-engine upon a new plan at Newcaſtle-under-Line; and he was for a time very intent upon a variety of contrivances for improving this uſeful piece of mechaniſm. But from theſe deſigns he was, happily for the public, called away to take the lead in what the event has proved to be a national con-

cern

cern of capital importance—the projecting the ſyſtem of *canal navigation*.—The duke of Bridgewater, who had formed his deſign of carrying a canal from his coal-works at Worſley to Mancheſter, was induced by the reputation of Mr. Brindley to conſult him on the execution of it; and having the ſagacity to perceive, and ſtrength of mind to confide in, the original and commanding abilities of this ſelf-taught genius, he committed to him the management of the arduous undertaking. The nature and progreſs of this enterpriſe have already been deſcribed; it is enough here to mention, that Mr. Brindley, from the very firſt, adopted thoſe leading principles in the projecting of theſe works, which he ever afterwards adhered to, and in which he has been imitated by all ſucceeding artiſts. To preſerve as much as poſſible the level of his canals, and to avoid the mixture and interference of all natural ſtreams, were objects at which he conſtantly aimed. To accompliſh theſe, no labour and expenſe was ſpared; and his genius ſeemed to delight in overcoming all obſtacles to them by the diſcovery of new and extraordinary contrivances.

The moſt experienced engineers upon former ſyſtems were amazed and confounded at his projects of aqueduct bridges over navigable rivers, mounds acroſs deep vallies, and ſubterraneous tunnels; nor could they believe in the practicability of ſome of theſe ſchemes till they ſaw them effected. In the execution, the ideas he followed were all his own; and the minuteſt, as well as the greateſt, of the expedients he employed, bore the ſtamp of originality. Every man of genius is an enthuſiaſt. Mr. Brindley was an enthuſiaſt in favour of the ſuperiority of canal navigations above thoſe of rivers; and this triumph of art over nature led him to view with a ſort of contempt the winding ſtream, in which the lover of rural beauty ſo much delights. This

ſentiment he is ſaid to have expreſſed in a ſtriking manner at an examination before a committee of the Houſe of Commons, when on being aſked, after he had made ſome contemptuous remarks relative to rivers, what he conceived they were created for :—he anſwered, " To feed " navigable canals."—A direct rivalry with the navigation of the Irwell and Merſey, was the bold enterprize of his firſt great canal; and ſince the ſucceſs of that deſign, it has become common all over the kingdom to ſee canals accompanying with inſulting parallel the courſe of navigable rivers.

After the ſucceſsful execution of the duke of Bridgewater's canal to the Merſey, Mr. Brindley was employed in the revived deſign of carrying a canal from that river to the Trent, through the counties of Cheſter and Stafford. This undertaking commenced in the year 1766; and from the great ideas it opened to the mind of its conductor, of a ſcheme of inland navigation which ſhould connect all the internal parts of England with each other, and with the principal ſea-ports, by means of *branches* from this main ſtem, he gave it the emphatical name of the *Grand Trunk*. In executing this, he was called upon to employ all the reſources of his invention, on account of the inequality and various nature of the ground to be cut through: in particular, the hill of Harecaſtle, which was only to be paſſed by a tunnel of great length, bored through ſtrata of different conſiſtency, and ſome of them mere quickſand, proved to be a moſt difficult as well as expenſive obſtacle, which, however, he completely ſurmounted. While this was carrying on, a branch from the Grand Trunk to join the Severn near Bewdley was committed to his management, and was finiſhed in 1772. He alſo executed a canal from Droitwich to the Severn; and he planned the Coventry canal, and for ſome time ſuperintended its execution, but

on

on account of ſome difference in opinion, he reſigned that office. The Cheſterfield canal was the laſt undertaking of the kind which he conducted, but he only lived to finiſh ſome miles of it. There was, however, ſcarcely any deſign of canal-navigation ſet on foot in the kingdom during the latter years of his life in which he was not conſulted, and the plan of which he did not either entirely form, or reviſe and improve. All theſe it is needleſs to enumerate; but as an inſtance of the vaſtneſs of his ideas, it may be mentioned, that on planning a canal from Liverpool to joiń that of the duke of Bridgewater at Runcorn, it was part of his intention to carry it by an aqueduct bridge acroſs the Merſey, at Runcorn-gap, a place where a tide ſometimes riſing fourteen feet ruſhes with great rapidity through a ſudden contraction of the channel. As a mechanic and engineer he was likewiſe conſulted on other occaſions; as with reſpect to the draining of the low lands in different parts of Lincolnſhire and the iſle of Ely, and to the cleanſing of the docks of Liverpool from mud. He pointed out a method which has been ſucceſsfully practiſed, of building ſea-walls without mortar; and he was the author of a very ingenious improvement of the machine for drawing water out of mines by the contrivance of a loſing and a gaining bucket.

The intenſity of application which all his various and complicated employments required, probably ſhortened his days; as the number of his undertakings, in ſome degree, impaired his uſefulneſs. He fell into a kind of chronic fever, which, after continuing ſome years with little intermiſſion, at length wore out his frame, and put a period to his life on September 27th, 1772, in the 56th year of his age. He died at Turnhurſt, in Staffordſhire, and was buried at New Chapel in the ſame county.

In

In appearance and manners, as well as in acquirements, Mr. Brindley was a mere peaſant. Unlettered and rude of ſpeech, it was eaſier for him to deviſe means for executing a deſign, than to communicate his ideas concerning it to others. Formed by nature for the profeſſion he aſſumed, it was there alone that he was in his proper element; and ſo occupied was his mind with his buſineſs, that he was incapable of relaxing in any of the common amuſements of life. As he had not the ideas of other men to aſſiſt him, whenever a point of difficulty in contrivance occurred, it was his cuſtom to retire to his bed, where in perfect ſolitude he would lie for one, two, or three days, pondering the matter in his mind, till the requiſite expedient had preſented itſelf. This is that true *inſpiration*, which poets have almoſt excluſively arrogated to themſelves, but which men of original genius in every walk are actuated by, when from the operation of the mind acting upon itſelf, without the intruſion of foreign notions, they create and invent. A remarkably retentive memory was one of the eſſential qualities which Mr. Brindley brought to his mental operations. This enabled him to execute all the parts of the moſt complex machine in due order, without any help of models or drawings, provided he had once accurately ſettled the whole plan in his mind. In his calculations of the powers of machines, he followed a plan peculiar to himſelf; but, indeed, the only one he could follow without inſtruction in the rules of art. He would work the queſtion ſome time in his head, and then ſet down the reſult in figures. Then taking it up in this ſtage, he would again proceed by a mental operation to another reſult; and thus he would go on by ſtages till the whole was finiſhed, only making uſe of figures to mark the ſeveral reſults of his operations. But though, by the wonderful powers of native genius, he was thus enabled to get over his want of artificial method to a certain degree, yet there is no doubt,

that

that when his concerns became extremely complicated, with accounts of various kinds to keep, and calculations of all ſorts to form, he could not avoid that perplexity and embarraſſment which a readineſs in the proceſſes carried on by pen and paper can alone obviate. His eſtimates of expenſe have generally proved wide of reality; and he ſeems to have been better qualified to be the contriver, than the manager, of a great deſign. His moral qualities were, however, highly reſpectable. He was far above envy and jealouſy, and freely communicated his improvements to perſons capable of receiving and executing them; taking a liberal ſatisfaction in forming a new generation of engineers able to proceed with the great plans in the ſucceſs of which he was ſo deeply intereſted. His integrity and regard to the advantage of his employers were unimpeachable. In fine, the name of *Brindley* will ever keep a place among that ſmall number of mankind, who form *eras* in the art or ſcience to which they devote themſelves, by a large and durable extenſion of their limits.

PART II.

ACCOUNTS OF PARTICULAR PLACES.

I.—*LANCASHIRE.*

Salford Hundred.

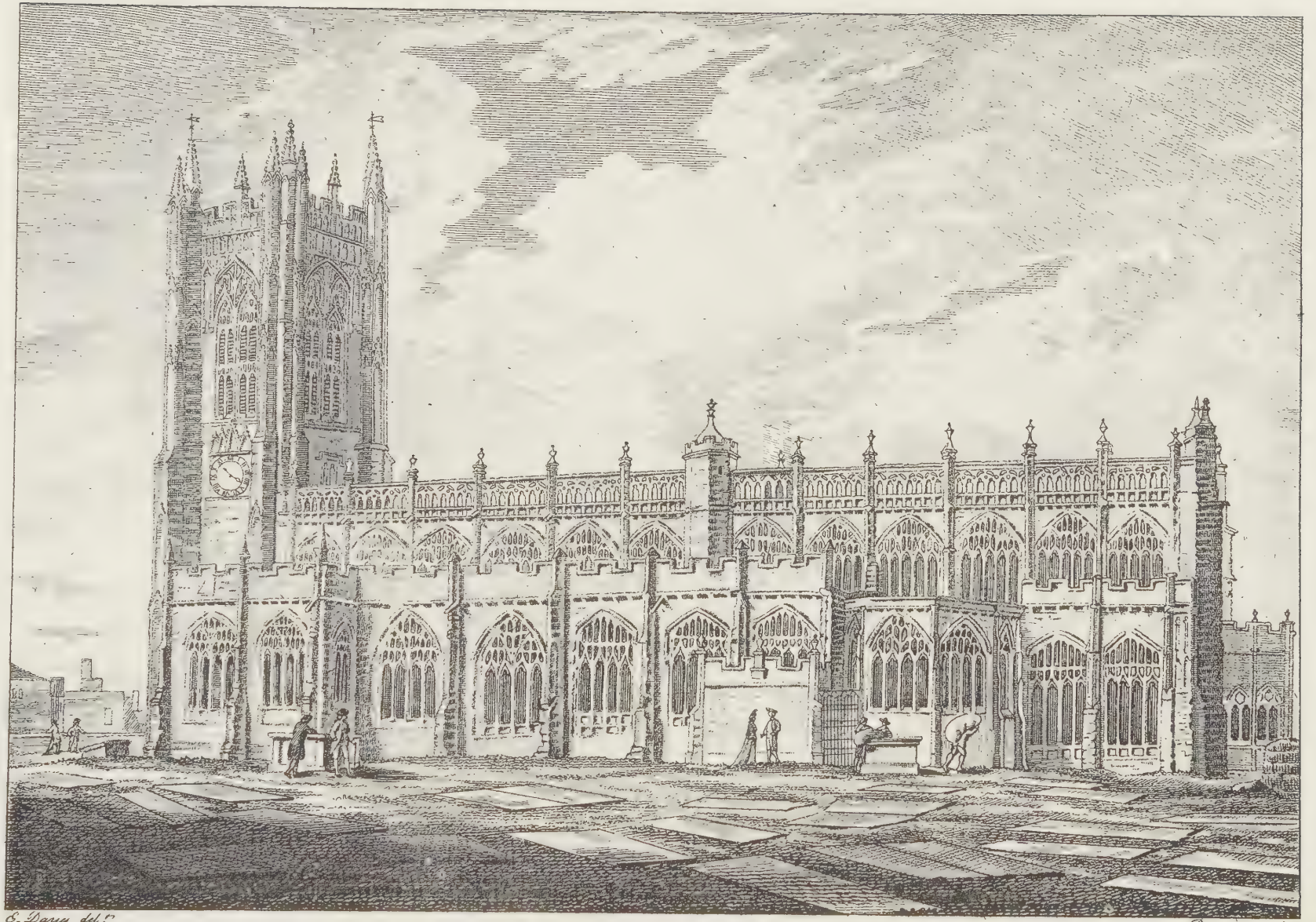
MANCHESTER.

THIS diſtinguiſhed town, one of the firſt with reſpect to commercial conſequence in England, and the centre of our preſent undertaking, has been dignified by a very learned and ingenious hiſtorian of its earlieſt ſtages, the *Rev. Mr. Whitaker*. The elaborate work of that writer rather deſerves, however, to be conſidered as an account of the ſtate of this iſland in general, during its early periods, than as the hiſtory of a ſingle town, then of little comparative conſequence, and the principal events of which are rather to be deduced from inference, than to be laid down from authentic monuments or records. What alone appears certain is, that the Roman invaders of this country fixed a ſtation for a body of troops in a place ſince called *Caſtlefield*, to which they gave the appellation of *Mancunium*, probably borrowed from a name

name given it by the Britiſh inhabitants of the vicinity;—that a town was raiſed in the neighbourhood of the ſtation, probably on the ſite of the preſent *Aldporton*, where a caſtle was built, which had the name of *Mancaſtle*; and that the erection of a pariſh church in the Saxon times drew round it a new town on the banks of the Irwell, the commencement of the preſent *Mancheſter*, and cauſed the old one to be deſerted. Mr. Whitaker fixes the date of this new town to be A. D. 627.

In the Daniſh invaſion and conqueſt of the kingdom of Northumberland, towards the latter end of the ninth century, Mancheſter, in common with many other towns, was totally or in great part deſtroyed. At this time it was a borough or city; and about 920 it appears, that Edward king of the Mercians gave orders for the fortifying of the city of Mancheſter, and placing a garriſon in it. Doomſday book mentions a church of St. Mary, and a church of St. Michael, as being in *Mamceſtre*, which it calls a manor or hundred. In 1301, Thomas Grelle granted to the burgeſſes of Mancheſter a charter conſtituting it a free borough with certain privileges. This perſon was likewiſe patron of the church. In 1313 John de la Warr, knight, was lord of the manor and patron. The manor-houſe ſtood in or near the place where the college now ſtands, and was called Baron's court, or Baron's yard.

Thomas lord de la Warr, the laſt male heir of that family, who was firſt rector of Mancheſter, and then ſucceeded to the peerage, procured a licenſe in the ninth year of Henry V. 1422, for founding a collegiate church at Mancheſter. The college conſiſted of a warden and eight fellows, of whom two were pariſh prieſts, two canons, and four deacons, two clerks and ſix choriſters. The building of the houſe coſt at that time 3000*l.* and to the value of twelve lordſhips were beſtowed by the



E. Dayes del.r

Record sculp.r

VIEW OF CHRIST'S CHURCH.

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the founder on the college and to other pious uſes. At that period the following liſt of prices of commodities is given, continuing to the year 1524.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
A horſe, - - -	2	4	0	A calf, - - - - -	0	4	1
An ox, - - - - -	1	15	8	A cock, - - - - -	0	0	3
A cow, - - - - -	0	15	6	A hen, - - - - -	0	0	2
A colt, - - - - -	0	7	8	Wheat per quarter, -	0	11	3
A ſheep, - - - -	0	5	0	Ale per gallon, - -	0	0	2
A hog, - - - - -	0	5	0	Day labourer's wages,	0	0	3

About the time of the foundation of the college the preſent fabric of Chriſt's Church, uſually called the Old Church, appears to have been erected. Who contributed moſt to the building is not certainly known; but the names and arms of the Stanleys, Weſts, Radclyffes, Byroms, and others, witneſs their aſſiſtance. The church is a fine gothic ſtructure, much ornamented with ſculpture on the outſide, and enriched with curious tabernacle-work over the ſtalls in the choir; with ſeveral chapels within, belonging to conſiderable families in the neighbourhood.

Mancheſter was now become a place of note. Cambden, ſpeaking of the town in his time, mentions its having been famous in the laſt age for its manufacture of ſtuffs, called *Mancheſter cottons*, which were a ſpecies of *woollen* cloths. It is alſo recorded, that about 1520 there were three famous clothiers living in the north country, viz. Cuthbert of *Kendal*, Hodgeſkins of *Halifax*, and Martin Brian (ſome ſay Byrom) of *Mancheſter*. Each of theſe kept a great number of ſervants at work, ſpinners, carders, weavers, fullers, dyers, ſhearmen, &c. This Martin is alſo related to have given much money towards the building

building of a free-ſchool at Mancheſter; which inſtitution, however, did not take place till ſome time after.

Leland, who travelled through the kingdom in the reign of Henry VIII. mentions *Manceſtre* as "the faireſt, beſt-builded, quickeſt, and "moſt populous town of Lancaſhire." He ſays, "It has but one "pariſh church, but that collegiate, and almoſt throughout double-"iſled with very hard ſquared ſtone. There are ſeveral ſtone bridges "in the town, but the beſt, of three arches, is over the Irwell, di-"viding Mancheſter from Salford, which is a large ſuburb to Man-"cheſter. On this bridge is a pretty little chapel. The next is the "bridge over Hirke (Irk) river, on which the very fair-builded college "ſtands. On this river are divers fair mills that ſerve the town. In "the town are two market-places.

Hugh Oldham, biſhop of Exeter, a native of Oldham in Lancaſhire, who died in the year 1519, founded a free grammar-ſchool in Mancheſter, and endowed it with certain lands, and a long leaſe which he had purchaſed of the corn mills of Mancheſter: and in 1524, Hugh Bexwick, clerk, and Joanna Bexwick, widow, made a full conveyance of the property of the ſaid mills, lands, and tenements, to truſtees for accompliſhing the ſame purpoſe. In the ordinances concerning the ſchool, it is directed, that no ſcholar or male infant of whatever country or ſhire be refuſed admiſſion. The choice of the head-maſter and uſher is veſted in the Preſident of Corpus Chriſti Coll. in Oxford for the time being, and on his default, in the warden of Mancheſter college.

Mancheſter having been originally a place of ſanctuary, was one of the eight places to whom this privilege was confirmed by ſtat. 32 Hen. VIII.

A. D.

A. D. 1540; but the next year, the privilege having been found prejudicial to the "wealth, credit, great occupyings, and good order" of Manchester, was transferred to Chester, which (says the statute) had no such trade and merchandize, and had a strong goal, and a mayor, bailiffs, &c.

By an act of parliament in the first of Edward VI. the college of Manchester was dissolved, and the land and revenues belonging to it were taken into the king's hand, and by him demised to Edward earl of Derby, who, however, took care to provide three or four ministers to officiate in the church. Queen Mary refounded the college, and restored almost all the lands, the earl of Derby still keeping the collegiate house and some small things.

A document concerning the trade of Manchester occurs in an act passed fifth and sixth of Edward VI. 1552, entitled, for the true making of woollen cloth; in which it is ordered, "That all the cottons "called *Manchester*, *Lancashire*, and *Cheshire* cottons, full wrought "to the sale, shall be in length twenty-two yards, and contain in "breadth three quarters of a yard in the water, and shall weigh thirty "pound in the piece at the least. Also, that all other clothes called *Man-*"*chester rugs*, otherwise named *Manchester frizes*, fully wrought for "sale, shall contain in length thirty-six yards, and in breadth three "quarters of a yard coming out of the water, and shall not be stretched "on the tenter or otherwise above a nail of a yard in breadth, and "being so fully wrought and well dried, shall weigh every piece forty-"eight pound at the least."—From this it is clear that the Manchester cottons at that period were made of wool. An act passed in 1557 to amend.

amend the above act, recites in the ſame terms the Mancheſter, Lancaſhire, and Cheſhire manufactures.

In the eighth of Q. Elizabeth 1565, an act was paſſed reſpecting the fees of the queen's *Aulneger* (the officer appointed to examine and ſet the ſeal to manufactured cloth) for the county of Lancaſter. In the preamble to this act it is recited, "That it has been a practice with "divers clothiers inhabiting the ſaid county, to ſend clandeſtinely "out of it cottons, frizes, and rugs, without being previouſly ſealed "by the queen's Aulneger, and ſometimes counterfeiting and ſetting "to their clothes ſeals of their own." For the prevention of this, the towns of *Mancheſter*, *Rochdale*, *Bolton*, *Blackburn*, and *Bury*, are appointed, wherein the Aulneger is to have his deputies. His fees are regulated by the act, and the requiſite length, breadth, and weight of the cottons, rugs, and frizes are determined.

In the twentieth year of Queen Elizabeth, A. D. 1578, a new foundation was given to the college by her Majeſty, in which it is incorporated by the name of *Chriſt's Coll. in Mancheſter*, and made to conſiſt of one warden prieſt, by degrees batchelor of divinity; four fellows, prieſts, batchelors of arts; two chaplains or vicars; four ſinging men, and four children; the warden to be appointed by the crown, the fellows and others to be elected by the warden and fellows. In the preamble to this foundation, the number of pariſhioners reſiding in the town of Mancheſter is aſſerted to be ten thouſand.

In the year 1605, the town was viſited by a peſtilence, of which upwards of 1000 perſons are ſaid to have died.

In

The college having ſuffered great loſſes from miſmanagement and uſurpation of its revenues, was re-founded by king Charles I. in the year 1635. The chief alterations made by this foundation were to abridge the power of the wardens and augment that of the fellows, and to confine the power of granting leaſes to tenants to twenty-one years, inſtead of three lives as formerly. The fines which accrued for ſome time, were applied to the repairing and beautifying the church, which had become greatly dilapidated.

At the breaking out of the civil war in 1642, poſſeſſion was taken of Mancheſter in behalf of the Parliament by the militia of the country, who were joined by many of the inhabitants and people of the vicinity; and fortifications were thrown up at the end of the ſtreets. At this time the town chiefly conſiſted of Market-ſtreet-lane, Dean's-gate, Miln-gate, and a few ſtreets about the market-place. In September 1642, the earl of Derby marched from Warrington with a force of about 4000 foot and 300 horſe, with ſeven pieces of ordnance, in order to ſeize upon Mancheſter for the King. On being refuſed admiſſion, he commenced an aſſault upon the defenders from Salford and the end of Dean's-gate, which proving unſucceſsful, he retired after a few days. This petty attempt, in which the town is ſaid to have loſt only four men killed and as many wounded, cannot but give a contemptible idea of the ſtate of military ſkill in this iſland at the commencement of thoſe troubles. In the next year the town was fortified and ſtrongly garriſoned, and it continued in the hands of the Parliament during the remainder of the war.

By an ordinance of Parliament dated 9th December, 1645, it appears that Mancheſter had for a long time been ſuffering under a peſtilence,

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ſo that for many months none had been permitted to come in or to go out. In conſequence of this, (the ordinance ſays) " moſt of the inha- " bitants living upon trade are not only ruined in their eſtates, but " many families are like to periſh for want, who cannot be ſufficiently " relieved by that miſerable, waſted country." On this account the Parliament orders that a collection be made for the poor of the ſaid town in all the churches and chapels of London and Weſtminſter; the money to be tranſmitted to Mr. John Hartley, of Mancheſter.

A Deſcription of the towns of Mancheſter and Salford annexed to a plan of the towns taken about 1650, affords the following circumſtances of information. It is to be obſerved, however, that the deſcription is written in a very turgid ſtyle, abounding in terms of exaggeration.

The people in and about the town are ſaid to be in general the moſt induſtrious in their callings of any in the northern parts of this kingdom. The town is a mile in length, the ſtreets open and clean kept, and the buildings good. There are four market-places; two market days weekly, and three fairs yearly. The trade is not inferior to that of many cities in the kingdom, chiefly conſiſting in *woollen frizes*, *fuſtians*, *ſack-cloths*, *mingled ſtuffs*, *caps*, *inkles*, *tapes*, *points*, &c. whereby not only the better ſort of men are employed, but alſo the very children by their own labour can maintain themſelves. There are beſides, all kinds of foreign merchandize brought and returned by the merchants of the town, amounting to the ſum of many thouſands of pounds weekly. There are in the town forty-eight ſubſidy-men, beſides a great number of burgeſſes; and four quarter-ſeſſions are held in it. The town is governed by a ſteward, a head-borough, aad two conſtables, with a deputy-conſtable, and ſeveral inferior officers; and great commen-

commendation is given to the regular and orderly manner in which things are conducted. The pariſh is ſaid to be at leaſt twenty-two miles in compaſs, within which are eight chapels; and to contain above twenty-ſeven thouſand communicants. This laſt number appears to be totally incredible.

The town was diſmantled of its fortifications in 1652.

Humphrey Cheetham, Eſq. of Clayton, by his will dated Dec. 16, 1651, founded and endowed an hoſpital and library in Mancheſter. The purpoſe of the hoſpital was to maintain and educate forty poor boys to the age of fourteen, when they were to be bound apprentice or otherwiſe provided for. They were to be elected out of various townſhips named in the will; and it is recommended to the truſtees to purchaſe the old college for a place of reſidence for the children, and for the uſe of the library. For commencing the library, a thouſand pounds are bequeathed to be expended in books; and the reſidue of his perſonal eſtate is given for the augmentation of the library. The college was accordingly purchaſed; and by a charter granted by Charles II. in 1665, the truſtees of this noble charity were incorporated into a body politic.

What the increaſe of the town was during the latter part of the laſt century does not appear from any authentic documents; but probably it was not very conſiderable. From the regiſter of the collegiate church, the average number of burials appears to have been,

From 1580 to 1587 incluſive,	184.
From 1680 to 1687	286.
From 1720 to 1727	359.

It

It was not till 1708 that an act paſſed for the erection of another church or chapel, St. Ann's. An account of the inhabitants taken in 1717 ſtates them at 8000. From that period the increaſe has been rapid. An act for a third church, St. Mary's, was obtained in 1753. In 1757, on account of an application to Parliament in order to exonerate the town from the obligation of grinding its corn at the mills belonging to the free-ſchool, which were now unable to ſupply its wants in a proper manner, two enumerations were made by the oppoſite parties, which came within 1000 of each other. The number moſt to be confided in, for Mancheſter and Salford conjointly, appears to have been 19,839.

In 1773 a ſurvey of Mancheſter was executed with accuracy, which gave the following reſults:

	Mancheſter.	Salford.	Total.
Houſes (inhabited	3402	866	4268
Families,	5317	1099	6416
Male inhabitants,	10,548	2248	12,796
Female ditto,	11,933	2517	14,450
Both ſexes,	22,481	4765	27,246

Perſons to a houſe, $6\frac{1}{5}$ To a family, $4\frac{1}{4}$.

At the ſame period, the townſhip of Mancheſter (detached from the town) contained 311 houſes, 361 families, 947 males, 958 females; total, 1905.

And the whole pariſh of Mancheſter, comprizing thirty-one townſhips in a compaſs of ſixty ſquare miles, contained 2371 houſes, 2525 families, 6942 males, 6844 females; total, 13,786 inhabitants.

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The whole number, then, of inhabitants in the town, townſhip, and pariſh of Mancheſter, and in Salford, amounted to 42,927.

At Chriſtmas 1788, the numbers by enumeration were, in the townſhip of Mancheſter, 5916 houſes, 8570 families, 42,821 perſons; in the townſhip of Salford, about 1260 houſes. The whole number of people in both towns might then be reckoned at more than 50,000.

During the year 1791, the chriſtenings in theſe towns amounted to 2960; the burials to 2286. Theſe numbers, by the uſual mode of calculating, will give from ſixty-five to ſeventy-four thouſand inhabitants—an increaſe almoſt unparalleled!

Having thus traced to the preſent period the progreſs of population in Mancheſter, we ſhall give a ſummary account of that of the trade and manufactures, by which the population is ſupported.

It has been ſeen that the original trade of this place was in thoſe coarſe woollen fabrics which were eſtabliſhed in various parts of the north of England; but that, as long ago as the middle of laſt century, it was alſo noted for the making of fuſtians, mixed ſtuffs, and ſmall wares. An original branch of the trade of Mancheſter was leather laces for women's boddice, ſhoe ties, and points for other uſes, which were tagged like laces, and ſold under the general denomination of *Congleton points*. Theſe were ſlips of leather dyed various colours. Upon the introduction of Dutch looms, woven laces were ſubſtituted to theſe, and tagged in like manner. Inkle, tapes, and filleting, which had before been made in frames or ſingle looms, were now like-

wiſe

wiſe wrought in theſe new engines; and coarſe felts were made for country wear, but none of finer quality. Bolſters, bed-ticks, linen-girth-web, and boot-ſtraps were manufactured here as early as 1700; but the weſt of England has long out-rivalled Mancheſter in ticks and webs, though it keeps its ſuperiority in woollen webs. Sixty years ſince, upon the decline of ticks, the manufacturers in that branch took more to the making of coarſe checks, ſtriped hollands, and hooping, and ſome yellow canvas was then made. At the ſame time the ſilk branch was attempted in cherry-derrys and thread ſatins. Fuſtians were manufactured about Bolton, Leigh, and the places adjacent; but Bolton was the principal market for them, where they were bought in the grey by the Mancheſter chapmen, who finiſhed and ſold them in the country. The fuſtians were made as early as the middle of laſt century, when Mr. Cheetham, who founded the blue-coat hoſpital, was the principal buyer at Bolton. When he had made his markets, the remainder was purchaſed by a Mr. Cooke, a much leſs honourable dealer, who took the advantage of calling the pieces what length he pleaſed, and giving his own price. The Mancheſter traders went regularly on market days to buy pieces of fuſtian of the weaver; each weaver then procuring yarn or cotton as he could, which ſubjected the trade to great inconvenience. To remedy this, ſome of the chapmen furniſhed warps and wool to the weavers, and employed perſons on commiſſion to put out warps to the weavers. They alſo encouraged weavers to fetch them from Mancheſter, and by prompt payment and good uſage endeavoured to ſecure good workmanſhip.

The kinds of fuſtian then made were herring-bones, pillows for pockets and outſide wear, ſtrong cotton ribs and barragon, broad-raced lin thickſets and tufts, dyed, with whited diapers, ſtriped dimities, and

and lining jeans. Cotton thickſets were made ſometimes, but as frequently dropped for want of proper finiſhing. Tufts were much in demand at that time, and reached their full perfection, in reſpect to the price. The Iriſh were particularly fond of them, till ſome of the leading people there found means to get them out of uſe. When tufts ceaſed to be in demand, more figured goods were made for whiting, and a greater variety of patterns attempted, by weavers, who had looms ready mounted for the former purpoſes. But as figures made with treadles are confined to a ſcanty range, beyond which they grow too complicated, the workmen had recourſe to the uſe of draw-boys, which gave name to a new and important branch of trade. Some yard-wides being made upon this plan were bought up with avidity, and great encouragement was given to the moſt ingenious weavers, and looms were mounted for them by their employers at a great expenſe. In the ſubſequent courſe of trade, great ſtocks of theſe draw-boys have come to lie on hand, and the article has met with great checks; yet the variety of figures it is capable of exhibiting, the diſtinctneſs of quality in the ſorts, the many uſes to which it is adapted, and its cheapneſs upon the whole, have rendered it a ſtanding branch of trade; although quilting with draw-boys upon an improved plan invented above forty years ſince, counterpanes, and the various kinds of corded dimities lately introduced, have rivalled it.

About the time when draw-boys were firſt made, cotton velvets were attempted, and brought to ſome perfection in the manufacturing part; and cotton thickſets were well manufactured; but theſe wanted the preſent methods of dreſſing, bleaching, dying, and finiſhing, to give them the general perfection they have now obtained.

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The manufacturers of check had by this time made great advances, and introduced new articles; for as the coarſe and narrow goods were chiefly made for ſea uſe, or ſent to the plantations abroad, upon the concluſion of a peace, or a glut of the foreign markets, the demands fell off; whence the manufacturers made broader checks, beſides the yard-wides of a finer and better quality, for home conſumption. Gowns ſtriped acroſs with cotton in a variety of patterns and colours were introduced ſixty years ago, and had a conſiderable run; and ſilk was at laſt ſhot with the cotton, which gave them ſuperior richneſs, and contributed to greater variety in the patterns. To theſe ſucceeded waſhing hollands, all cotton in the warp, which were a valued article, till yarn was mixed with the warp, and ruined their character. But the methods of hardening and ſtiffening ſingle cotton, and the facility with which it had been wrought in theſe hollands, induced ſome capital houſes about fifty years ſince, to undertake the manufacture of ſlight cotton goods for the African trade, upon a failure of imports from the Eaſt Indies. In this they ſucceeded, and had large demands, though they were afraid of a ſtock, ſince the Eaſt India Company could command the article, and ſometimes gave them a check. But the Company ſeem to have given up the object; and this branch of trade continued till the unhappy conteſt with America interrupted the intercourſe with Africa.

An application of the lighter open ſtriped checks to bed-hangings and window-curtains forty years ſince introduced the making of furniture checks, which have almoſt ſet aſide the uſe of ſtuffs in upholſtery. The uſe of ſoft coloured ſilk in ſtriped gowns was followed by the introduction of it in warps for the ſeveral ſpecies of ginghams, damaſks, morees, &c. The tying and dying of ſilk handkerchiefs is brought to great perfection, ſo as to imitate thoſe imported from India; and the variety

variety of printed handkerchiefs here, both cotton and linen, is ſcarcely to be enumerated.

The perfecting of ſilk handkerchiefs was owing to Mr. Richard Meadowcroft, who, in 1770, obſerving a poor family, that had uſually been employed in the tying, deſtitute of work, found that the reaſon was, the want of dying them properly. Having a turn to chymiſtry, he made experiments till he produced faſt colours in different ſhades of chocolate, and a colour approaching to ſcarlet, which he long kept to himſelf, and eſtabliſhed the article to his own deſerved emolument. The tying is now extended to fine callico, and ſilk with cotton handkerchiefs.

About the time that ſilk handkerchiefs began to be tyed for dying, velverets began to be ſtamped with gold ſpots and figures by the ingenuity of Mr. Mather, who had before that time contrived to get thickſets dyed of one colour uncut, and after cutting, of another, which gave a novel appearance to the article. An attempt was made to ſtamp the pile of velverets in figures by heated rollers, as linſeys and harrateens had formerly been done for bed-furniture; but without ſucceſs. The ſtriping of callicoes by rollers, and printing them with copperplates in the rolling-preſs has, however, ſucceeded.

The manufacture of hats has been as much improved at Mancheſter as any original branch of its trade. At firſt the felt-makers only wrought the coarſe ſheep's wool, and it was not till about ſixty years ſince that they uſed the fine Spaniſh, or the goat's wool from Germany, or that from the Levant, which is a ſpecies of goat's wool, though commonly called camel's hair, or any of the furs called ſtuff. The

proceſs

proceſs of felting coarſe wool is quite different from that of working theſe finer matters; being, firſt to put the wool ſlightly together in a conical form, and then to boil it with common aſtringents of native growth; whence it is now carried on in the country where ſuch materials are at hand, by undertakers who have the wool from Mancheſter, and bring back the felts to be finiſhed: but the manufactory of fine hats at Mancheſter is now inferior to none; as the workmen early began to handle the fine wools, ſtuffs, and beaver, and are now perfect in the proceſs of working them with beer grounds, ſpirits, &c. and are equally expert in dying and finiſhing blacks, while they have a decided ſuperiority in fancy hats, in which they rather lead than follow the faſhion. The linings have been glazed and cut here as long as forty years ſince, and now ſerve other manufactories beſides thoſe of Mancheſter. The looping is made in the ſwivel engines here, and other trimmings in the neighbourhood.

To the manufactory of laces, inkles, tapes, and filleting, was early added that of the divers kinds of bindings and worſted ſmall wares; but ſuch has been the demand for Engliſh worſted of the beſt quality by the manufacturers of furniture checks and Turkey ſtripes, that the ſmall-ware-makers were conſtrained to uſe Iriſh worſted, which, being cheaper, made them drop the prices: and the competition ſince has rather been in the cheapneſs than the goodneſs of the article. Theſe furniture checks have grown into diſrepute from the cockling of the worſted upon waſhing; and the upholſterers now chooſe cotton ſtripes made on purpoſe, or prints with furniture patterns. White cotton binding, lace and fringe for curtains is now an article of extenſive demand. As it was found that the Dutch enjoyed the manufacture of fine holland tapes unrivalled, plans were procured, and ingenious mechanics invited

vited over to conſtruct ſwivel engines at a great expenſe, which have been employed in moſt branches of ſmall wares with ſucceſs. This manufacture alone, however, has not been ſufficient to employ large capitals without the aid of ſome other branch, and the fuſtian trade has been added to it, firſt as an auxilary, then as a principal.

The former deficiency as to finiſhing the cotton velvets and thickſets put the manufacturers upon ſeveral methods to remedy that defect; all which, however, were imperfect, till the preſent mode of dreſſing was invented and brought to perfection, which not only contributed to the eſtabliſhment of thoſe articles to which it was applied, but ſoon raiſed velverets, which were made as a middle ſpecies between velvets and thickſets, to a rivalſhip with the former; and gives to many other articles, both dyed and white, their higheſt degree of perfection. The fuſtian trade has alſo been improved by the addition of velveteens, fifteen years ſince, approaching nearer to real velvets than the velverets; likewiſe ſtrong and fancy cords.

The practice of dreſſing cauſed a revolution in the whole ſyſtem of bleaching and dying. Before this time, the lighter drabs and fancy colours might be ſaid rather to hang on the ſurface, than to be fixed in the ſubſtance of cotton goods. But the neceſſity of paſſing through the ordeal of dreſſing over glowing hot iron, cauſed them to employ more fixed drugs and aſtringents, with more powerful menſtruums, in order to diſcharge the ruſtineſs contracted by the fire; in all which attempts they kept improving till dreſſing in the grey took place, and goods were brought to conſiderable perfection by alternate dreſſings and bleachings before they were dyed. Notwithſtanding this improvement, the dyers found ſufficient ſcope for their invention in the variety of patterns

terns they were encouraged to produce for pattern-cards, which now began to be circulated, not only through theſe kingdoms, but all over Europe; and the printing of many articles in the fuſtian branch gave a greater variety to theſe pattern-cards, while it afforded full employment for invention in dying grounds preparatory to them, and following the prints with other ſhades. Thus the art of printing here came to rival that of London, and that branch has in great meaſure been tranſferred from thence to the town and neighbourhood of Mancheſter.

A perſon to whom theſe improvements have been particularly owing, is Mr. John Wilſon of Ainſworth. He was originally a manufacturer in the fuſtian branch in Mancheſter, and early engaged in the making of cotton velvets, which by unwearied efforts he brought to their utmoſt degree of perfection. By attending carefully to the inſtruction and ſuperintendance of weavers, he ſoon brought that part of the manufacture to ſuch perfection, that nothing could be added but an alteration of tabbies to Genoa backs, chained or otherwiſe. The dying and dreſſing, however, were ſtill imperfect. Mr. Wilſon uſed various means of rubbing and bruſhing the piles, clearing off the looſe hairs with razors, and then burning them off with ſpirits of wine, in which operations many others began to engage equally with him. But he firſt began to dye them himſelf; at firſt in an experimental way at home, when firing off the pile with hot irons took place. Theſe were firſt uſed upon blacks only, and were much like the weaver's drying irons, only of a rounder form, and were heated by ſtoves; and the perſon who firſt employed them was Mr. Whitlow, governor of the houſe of correction. This method ſaved the expenſe of ſpirits, and ſucceeded equally well.

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Mr. Wilſon having a turn for chymical inquiries, inveſtigated the different known proceſſes for dying, and found that thoſe employed by the thread dyers were better adapted to fix black upon cotton, than thoſe uſed by the fuſtian dyers. He found frequent waſhing and rincing of great uſe in opening the pile to favour the new method of dreſſing. Reſolving to give full ſcope to his improvements, he took a houſe and grounds at Ainſworth near Cockey-moor, and commenced a capital dreſſer, bleacher, and dyer, firſt and principally of his own goods, which he brought to ſuch high perfection, as to acquire the higheſt character both at London and in foreign markets. Before he could bring his plans to full execution, he had perſons articled to him for ſeven years, and carefully taught all the various operations in the different departments; for none of the workmen previouſly employed in dreſſing, bleaching, or dying, would ſuit his purpoſe, on account of their attachment to the old methods. He continued the method of dreſſing by hand irons ſome time after the preſent one obtained of drawing them over red-hot cylinders, as there was leſs danger of firing or tearing the pieces; but he effectually opened and ſoftened the pile by repeated operations of various kinds, finiſhing it quite upright, with a peculiar gloſs and brightneſs, inſomuch that pattern-card makers could at firſt ſight diſtinguiſh ſlips of his working from all others.

Having ſucceeded to his ſatisfaction in dying the other rich colours, he procured from the Greek dyers of Smyrna the ſecret of dying Turkey red, which has been deſcribed at large in two eſſays read before the *Philoſophical and Literary Society of Mancheſter*, which he printed and diſtributed among his friends after he had retired from buſineſs. This red he found required too tedious and expenſive a proceſs, leſs ſuited to manufactured goods, than to cotton in the ſkain; nor even ſuited to that

that ſpun upon the ſingle ſpindles then in uſe, though it might be applicable enough to that ſpun on machines. The character Mr. Wilſon's finiſhing had acquired was a great recommendation of velverets when they firſt came up, and induced the manufacturers to get moſt of the rich colours dyed by him. He was prevailed upon by much entreaty to dye ſome drabs, which he performed in ſuch perfection, that the dyers of fancy drabs could only ſucceed in proportion as they followed his proceſſes. The china blues that he dyed upon velvets and velverets were likewiſe of his own invention.

Several circumſtances have occurred to fix the printing buſineſs here. A principal one was, that cotton greys and callicoes are manufactured in theſe parts; whence, by printing here, the former expenſe of land-carriage to London is ſaved. Further, the rent for bleaching grounds is here lower, and workmen can live cheaper. A ſucceſſion of capital artiſts were thus induced to come down, who not only inſtructed others, but added to their former experience by printing upon grounds which the dyers followed with other ſhades. Hence there was a communication of methods and chymical ſecrets between printers and dyers, to the advantage of both parties. Theſe improvements left the London printers no ſuperiority but in light airy patterns, upon which thoſe in Lancaſhire are making a conſiderable progreſs, while the large capitals employed in the buſineſs ſecure all the improvements that are made.

Muſlins have been made to a great extent of late, and many printed ones; hence from a great demand both articles have been too ſlightly made, and have received a check.

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The acquiſition of theſe laſt branches, with the great increaſe of the export trade, have given ſuch employment to large capitals here, that the interior buſineſs of the country is in great meaſure given up to the middle claſs of manufacturers and petty chapmen; but no exertions of the maſters or workmen could have anſwered the demands of trade without the introduction of *ſpinning machines.*

Theſe were firſt uſed by the country people on a confined ſcale, twelve ſpindles being thought a great matter; while the awkward poſture required to ſpin on them was diſcouraging to grown up people, who ſaw with ſurprize children from nine to twelve years of age manage them with dexterity, whereby plenty was brought into families formerly overburthened with children, and the poor weavers were delivered from the bondage in which they had lain from the inſolence of ſpinners. The following ſtate of the caſe will explain this matter. From the time that the original ſyſtem in the fuſtian branch, of buying pieces in the grey from the weaver, was changed, by delivering them out work, the cuſtom of giving them out weft in the cops, which obtained for a while, grew into diſuſe, as there was no detecting the knavery of ſpinners till a piece came in woven; ſo that the practice was altered, and wool given with warps, the weaver anſwering for the ſpinning. And the weavers in a ſcarcity of ſpinning have ſometimes been paid leſs for the weft than they gave the ſpinner, but durſt not complain, much leſs abate the ſpinner, leſt their looms ſhould be unemployed. But when ſpinning-jennies were introduced, and children could work upon them, the caſe was reverſed.

The plenty of weft produced by this means gave uneaſineſs to the country people, and the weavers were afraid leſt the manufacturers

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ſhould demand finer weft woven at the former prices, which occaſioned ſome riſings, and the demolition of jennies in ſome places by the uninformed populace. At length Dorning Raſbotham, Eſq. a worthy magiſtrate near Bolton, wrote and printed a ſenſible addreſs to the weavers, in order to convince them of their own intereſt in encouraging theſe engines, which happily produced a general acquieſcence in their uſe to a certain number of ſpindles. Theſe were ſoon multiplied to three or four times the number; nor did the invention of mechanics reſt here, for the demand for twiſt for warps was greater as weft grew more plentiful, whence engines were ſoon conſtructed for this purpoſe.

The improvements kept increaſing, till the capital engines for twiſt were perfected, by which thouſands of ſpindles are put in motion by a water wheel, and managed moſtly by children, without confuſion and with leſs waſte of cotton than by the former methods. But the carding and ſlubbing preparatory to twiſting required a greater range of invention. The firſt attempts were in carding engines, which are very curious, and now brought to a great degree of perfection; and an engine has been contrived for converting the carded wool to ſlubbing, by drawing it to about the thickneſs of candlewick preparatory to throwing it into twiſt. When theſe larger machines that moved by water were firſt ſet to work, they produced ſuch excellent twiſt for warps, that they ſoon out-rivalled the warps made on the larger jennies, which had yielded good profits to the owners. In conſequence of this, according to the uſual ſhort-ſighted policy of narrow-minded and intereſted men, the country was excited againſt the water-machines, and ſome of them were demoliſhed before protection could be obtained. Yet a little reflection would have ſhown the country people, that if more warps were made, there would be a greater demand for weft from their

their jennies, and a better price for it. This has ſince been fully experienced in the introduction of muſlins; for no contrivance in the other machines can make the thread hold when it is ſo ſlack thrown as to ſuit for weft; nor can it be ſuppoſed that the attempt would be made, as the demand for twiſt for warps will fully employ them. For when cotton bears a reaſonable price, the warps made of this twiſt will be as cheap as thoſe made with yarn, and keep the money at home which uſed to be ſent abroad for that article; there being no compariſon between yarn and cotton warps in goodneſs. In fact, cotton warps have lately been introduced to a great extent, where yarn had before been uſed. As theſe machines are now to be ſeen by the curious, and ſpecifications of their conſtruction may be had at the Patent office, no delicacy is neceſſary in laying deſcriptions of them fully before the public. We ſhall, therefore, attempt to give ſuch an idea of them as can be communicated by words, beginning with the machine for carding cotton.

The ſpinners had begun to pick the huſks of cotton ſeeds from their wool, and paſs it through a lather of ſoap, preparatory to carding, before carding engines were invented; and upon their introduction, the firſt operation was to pick and ſoap the wool, wring it out well from the lather, dry it, then ſpread a given quantity upon the feeder of a carding engine. This feeder was a coarſe cloth, ſewed together at the ends, and ſtrained upon ſmall rollers; upon the cotton ſerved by this feeder, a roller faced with tin punched through like a common grater, made a ſlow revolution, pinching up the cotton; and the feeder, anſwering its motion, kept delivering more, while the vacant part of the cloth coming up was ſerved with more cotton. Thus the cotton was delivered to ſets of cylinders with cards nailed upon them; as many

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of theſe as had a revolution onward from the feeder, were governed by one ſtrap, from the firſt mover, fixed on ſeveral pullies or whorles upon the ſpindles paſſing through the centres of thoſe cylinders. Other cylinders had a contrary motion, to ſtrip the cotton from thoſe of the firſt deſcription, delivering it to the next, in the direct motion onward to the largeſt cylinder of all, which received the cotton thoroughly carded by the inverſe and direct revolutions of theſe intermediate cylinders.

An invention was neceſſary at the end of the motion, to take off the cardings, which was firſt attempted by a fluted roller put in motion by a ſtrap from the inverſe ſyſtem of cylinders, which preſſing upon the card teeth of the large cylinders, rubbed off the cardings, which fell into a receptacle below; but theſe cardings were rubbed too cloſe in the operation, and hence not ſo open for the purpoſe of ſpinning as could be wiſhed. A moſt curious contrivance produced the remedy deſired; this was effected by caſting a worm-like or ſpiral fluxion at the centre of the great wheel, which was fixed upon the cylinder to be diveſted of the cardings; this ſpiral worm worked a ſmall wheel upon a ſpindle which governed a tumbler by a crank, and threw a croſs plate of metal garniſhed with ſmall teeth againſt the cards at intervals, and took off the carding as open as could be wiſhed.

This contrivance Mr. Arkwright claimed as his own invention till a verdict in the King's-Bench ſet aſide his claim. This gentleman, knighted in the preſent reign for his ingenuity, is worthy of being celebrated for his induſtry in the early obſervations which he made of new inventions in carding and ſpinning, and his capacity in forming them into a perfect ſyſtem in the twiſt machine, for which he obtained a pa-

a patent. But finding ſeveral improvements not in his firſt ſpecification, he got it extended, and ſpecified in particular the above invention to take off the cardings. Before this time he had ſued ſeveral cotton ſpinners for an invaſion of his patent. They joined iſſue with him, and in the event he was non-ſuited. On the extenſion of his patent, care being taken to ſpecify the additional improvements, he inſtituted another ſuit for invaſion of his patent, and obtained a verdict in the court of Common Pleas. This occaſioned a great alarm among many who had at a great expenſe erected machines for cotton ſpinning, of whom an acknowledgement of ſo much a ſpindle was demanded under the threat of immediate ſuit. The perſons concerned got the matter removed into the court of King's-bench, where, upon trial, it was proved that the apparatus above deſcribed for taking off the cardings was a prior invention of an ingenious mechanic, Mr. Heys by name, in conſequence of which a verdict was given againſt Mr. Arkwright. In fact, the roller upon which Mr. Heys's ſpindle-ſtrings ran was immediately adopted after his public exhibition of it; his contrivance alſo of ſlipping his handle from a ſquare to a round, which checked the operation of ſpinning and puſhing on to an interior contrivance to wind up the ſpin thread, is adopted in the machines for ſpinning of twiſt, which proceſs we ſhall now deſcribe.

The cotton for this purpoſe is of the firſt ſtaple, but not too long grained; being beaten out to open the grain, it is picked very carefully, and the uſual proceſs purſued to the carding, with this difference, that inſtead of ſeveral cylinders, there is one only to take cotton wool from the pincher, and deliver it to a very large one, whence it is received by another, and ſtript by the tumbler, and carried to the ſerver of others in rotation, till it riſes from the laſt in a fine well-corded ſheet. This

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is kept from returning to the cylinder by the attendants; and being gently cloſed together, is conducted over a pulley high enough to make it fall by its own weight, as it is continually detached from the cards. A deep tin-can is ſet under, into which the carded wool coils itſelf, much reſembling the wool drawn from Jerſey combs: many of theſe tin-cans are in readineſs to replace the filled ones, which are removed to ſerve a machine for roving, as the firſt operation of ſpinning is called; where the cardings of three cans put together are paſſed through rollers moved by clock-work, which alſo puts in motion ſmall circular bruſhes to clear the looſe flying hairs of cotton from the rollers; thoſe deliver every three fleeces of carded cotton ſo connected, that when a can is emptied and another is ſupplied, care is taken that two whole fleeces preſerve the continuity of the preparation for twiſting, which paſſes from the rollers to ſpindles furniſhed with a curious apparatus to give it a very ſlight throw and wind it on bobbins in rovings. Theſe undergo ſeveral courſes of drawing by rollers and throwing, till it is wound upon bobbins in an open and even ſtate, for the final operation of ſpinning by the machines for making twiſt.

Theſe machines exhibit in their conſtruction an aggregate of clock-maker's work and machinery moſt wonderful to behold. The cotton to be ſpun is introduced through three ſets of rollers, ſo governed by the clock-work, that the ſet which firſt receives the cotton makes ſo many more revolutions than the next in order, and theſe more than the laſt which feed the ſpindles, that it is drawn out conſiderably in paſſing through the rollers; being laſtly received by ſpindles, which have every one on the bobbin a fly like that of a flax wheel; both the flyers and the bobbin in like manner are looſe on the ſpindle, which are whirled with amazing rapidity; but every bobbin reſting upon a board, is checked

checked in its courſe, and only can wind up what twiſt is ſpun; and to avoid the inconvenience of winding it in ridges, as in flax-ſpinning, the board upon which they reſt has an alternate motion, which raiſes and depreſſes the bobbins, ſo that the twiſt winds to and fro, the whole length of each bobbin. A conſiderable number of ſpindles may be wrought in one twiſting frame, but they are connected in ſyſtems of four to each ſyſtem, ſo that when a thread breaks, thoſe four of the ſyſtem to which it belongs may be ſtopped, while the others are twiſting. This advantage is obtained by lifting that ſyſtem from the ſquare part of a ſpindle, which by a whorl from the machinery governed the four, to a round part above, which moves without giving motion to the ſyſtem, till the thread is again connected with the prepared cotton, by pinching off what was unſpun, and clapping it to the laſt roller, where it lays hold of the untwiſted cotton, when that ſet on four is dropped again upon the ſquare of the ſpindles, and the twiſting goes on. Children are ſoon very dexterous at connecting broken ends with prepared cotton at the rollers, their ſmall fingers being more active and endued with a quicker ſenſibility of feeling than thoſe of grown perſons; and it is wonderful to ſee with what diſpatch they can raiſe a ſyſtem, connect threads, and drop it again into work almoſt inſtantaneouſly.

Upon theſe machines twiſt is made of any fineneſs proper for warps; but as it is drawn length way of the ſtaple, it was not ſo proper for weft; wherefore on the introduction of fine callicoes and muſlins, mules were invented, having a name expreſſive of their ſpecies, being a mixed machinery between jennies and the machines for twiſting, and adapted to ſpin weft as fine as could be deſired, by adding to the jennies ſuch rollers, governed by clock-maker's work, as were deſcribed above, only with this difference, that when the threads are drawn out, the

the motion of the rollers is ſuſpended by an ingenious contrivance, till the weft is hardened and wound up; in which operation the ſpindles are alternately drawn from and returned to the feeding rollers, being fixed on a moveable frame like thoſe of the billies to make cardings into what are called rovings for the common jennies.

Theſe mules carry often to a hundred and fifty ſpindles, and can be ſet to draw weft to an exact fineneſs up to 150 hanks in the pound, of which muſlin has been made, which for a while had a prompt ſale; but the flimſineſs of its fabric has brought the finer ſorts into diſcredit, and a ſtagnation of trade damped the ſale of the reſt.

The worſted and woollen manufactories are alike benefited by improvements in carding and ſpinning, taken from the cotton machines, and adapted to their particular branches, which improvements make the work people uneaſy till they experience that an increaſed ſale of goods in proportion to improvements finds them employment, and that children, who had nothing to do before, earn wages by employment at the machines, whether employed in ſpinning woollen yarn, Jerſey or cotton. Flax is now attempted by the ſame machinery, but the length of its ſtaple in fine dreſſed flax may render it difficult to draw; yet the ſhort hards dreſſed out of it may be ſpun this way evener and more compact than by the flax wheel, and what was too ſhort for making yarn before, may now be wrought up, which will be good economy and leſſen the imports.

The new-invented ſteam engines by a ſingle cylinder cloſed above, puſhing over water to an overſhot-wheel, which returns to the reſervoir, ſuppoſe a common pump-ſpring, were a great improvement, and

and employed to advantage as the application of machinery to ſeveral branches of buſineſs was extended. For by this means, there is leſs occaſion for horſes, and any power may be applied by enlarging the diameter of the cylinders, as one of twenty-four inches will force over more than ſixty gallons at a ſtroke. This improvement, which is as ſimple as ingenious, was the invention of a common pump-maker, Wrigley by name, of this town, who never applied for a patent, but imparted freely what he invented to thoſe who thought proper to employ him.*

Some attempts have been made to work a number of looms together by machinery. The firſt was upon the introduction of ſwivel-looms, above thirty years ſince, by Mr. Gartſide, with a capital water-wheel at his factory near Garret-hall, now a very large one for cotton ſpinning by water. Mr. Whitehead, the chief projector, and a partner, has there fixed a ſteam engine to return the water occaſionally, and another fixed in a caſe of brick on the principle of thoſe to quench fire; upon the leaſt alarm of fire he can ſcrew on his pipe, ſet the engine to work by the great wheel, and no deficiency of water can occur, the engine forcing up water from the mill-race, ſo that a ſingle perſon can ſend a continued ſtream of water to any part of the factory or over it; a contrivance worthy to be adopted in all cotton ſpinning factories, where there is a powerful wheel and plenty of water, which is the caſe here: for Mr. Gartſide ſpared no coſt in his ſcheme of working ſwivel-looms

* Raiſing water by ſteam-engines, and throwing it back into the mill-dam or reſervoir was firſt practiſed about thirty-ſeven years ſince by the late Mr. Wilkinſon, at Berſham-furnace, near Wrexham, by an engine of great magnitude which brought up the contents of the river as it were at one ſtroke. This engine ſhook the buildings and ground for a conſiderable diſtance, and required ten times more fuel than thoſe at preſent conſtructed.

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by water, and continued to employ them for a conſiderable time to very little advantage; for one weaver was neceſſary to take care of a loom, and if the diviſion where the ſhuttle ranges in any piece was clogged with knots in the warp or broken ends, the whole of a piece or a great part of it was liable to be cut down before a loom could be thrown out of gear; but weavers who work a ſwivel-loom by the hand themſelves, have a facility acquired by habit of checking the motion in ſuch caſes, returning back the ſhuttles from a half-ſhoot to prevent any misfortune.

Mr. Grimſhaw of Gorton attempted the conſtruction of machinery to weave piece goods, in a capital factory at Knott-mill, which was burnt down before any judgement could be formed how it would have ſucceeded.

The prodigious extenſion of the ſeveral branches of the Mancheſter manufactures has likewiſe greatly increaſed the buſineſs of ſeveral trades and manufactures connected with or dependent upon them. The making of paper at mills in the vicinity has been brought to great perfection, and now includes all kinds, from the ſtrongeſt parcelling paper to the fineſt writing ſorts, and that on which banker's bills are printed. To the ironmongers ſhops, which are greatly increaſed of late, are generally annexed ſmithies, where many articles are made, even to nails. A conſiderable iron foundry is eſtabliſhed in Salford, in which are caſt moſt of the articles wanted in Mancheſter and its neighbourhood, conſiſting chiefly of large caſt wheels for the cotton machines; cylinders, boilers, and pipes for ſteam engines; caſt ovens, and grates of all ſizes. This work belongs to Batemen and Sharrard, gentlemen every way qualified for ſo great an undertaking. Mr. Sharrard is a very ingenious and able engineer, who has improved upon and brought the

the ſteam engine to great perfection. Moſt of thoſe that are uſed and ſet up in and about Mancheſter are of their make and fitting up. They are in general of a ſmall ſize, very compact, ſtand in a ſmall ſpace, work ſmooth and eaſy, and are ſcarcely heard in the building where erected. They are now uſed in cotton mills, and for every purpoſe of the water wheel, where a ſtream is not to be got, and for winding up coals from a great depth in the coal pits, which is performed with a quickneſs and eaſe not to be conceived.

Some few are alſo erected in this neighbourhood by Meſſrs. Bolton and Watts of Birmingham, who have far excelled all others in their improvement of the ſteam engine, for which they have obtained a patent, that has been the ſource of great and deſerved emolument. The boilers are generally of plate iron or copper; but ſome few for the ſmaller engines are of caſt iron.

There are five other iron foundries in Mancheſter, which do a great deal of buſineſs. In one of them Mr. Alexander Brodie of Carey Street, London, is concerned, who is well known for his very extenſive manufactory of grates and ſtoves, as well for kitchens and dining rooms, as ſhips.*

The quantity of pig iron uſed at the different foundries in Mancheſter within theſe few years, has been very great, and is moſtly brought (by

* The firms of the iron foundries are,

Bateman and Sharratt; Salford.
Brodie, M'Niven, and Ormrod; Mancheſter.
Smiths and Co. ditto.
Baſſett and Smith, ditto.
Mrs. Phœbe Fletcher, ditto.
John Smith, ditto.

canal

canal carriage) from Boatfield and Co.'s iron furnace, Old Park, near Coalbrook Dale; and Mr. Brodie's furnace, near the Iron Bridge, both in Shropſhire.

The tin-plate workers have found additional employment in furniſhing many articles for ſpinning machines; as have alſo the braziers in caſting wheels for the motion-work of the rollers uſed in them; and the clock-makers in cutting them. Harneſs-makers have been much employed in making bands for carding engines, and large wheels for the firſt operation of drawing out the cardings, whereby the conſumption of ſtrong curried leather has been much increaſed.

We ſhall conclude this account of the trade of Mancheſter with ſome facts to ſhow the rapid increaſe and prodigious amount of the cotton manufactures of this iſland, extracted from a pamphlet publiſhed in 1788, entitled, "An Important Criſis in the Callico and Muſlin Manufactory in Great Britain, explained;" the purpoſe of which was to warn the nation of the bad conſequences which would reſult from the rivalry of the Eaſt India cotton goods which then began to be poured into the markets in increaſed quantities, and at diminiſhed prices,

The author aſſerts, that not above twenty years before the time of his writing, the whole cotton trade of Great Britain did not return £.200,000 to the country for the raw materials, combined with the labour of the people; and at that period, before the introduction of the water machinery and hand engines, the power of the ſingle wheel could not exceed 50,000 ſpindles employed in ſpinning the cotton wool into yarn: but at the preſent moment, the power of ſpindles thus employed amounts

amounts to two millions; and the groſs return for the raw materials and labour exceeds ſeven millions ſterling. It was about the year 1784 that the expiration of Sir Richard Arkwright's patent cauſed the erection of water machines for the ſpinning of warps in all parts of the country, with which the hand engines for the ſpinning of weft kept proportion. At the time he wrote he eſtimates the number of

Water mills or machines, at - - - - - -	143
Mule jennies or machines, conſiſting of 90 ſpindles each, - - - - - - - - - -	550
Hand jennies of 80 ſpindles each, - - - -	20,070

Of the water mills, 123 are in England, and nineteen in Scotland. Of thoſe in England,

Lancaſhire has - -	41	Cheſhire, - - -	8
Derbyſhire, - - -	22	Staffordſhire, - -	7
Nottinghamſhire, -	17	Weſtmorland - -	5
Yorkſhire, - - -	11	Flintſhire, - - -	3

Theſe eſtabliſhments, when in full work, are eſtimated to give employment to about 26,000 men, 31,000 women, and 53,000 children, in ſpinning alone; and in all the ſubſequent ſtages of the manufacture, the number of perſons employed is eſtimated at 133,000 men, 59,000 women, and 48,000 children; making an aggregate of 159,000 men, 90,000 women, and 101,000 children, in all, 350,000 perſons, employed in the cotton manufacture.

The increaſe of raw material uſed, and goods made, is ſhown in the following liſts:

Cotton

Cotton wool remaining in the country after exportation, in

	lb
1783 - - - -	9,546,179
1784 - - - -	11,280,238
1785 - - - -	17,992,888
1786 - - - -	19,151,867
1787 - - - -	22,600,000

Groſs value of cotton goods made, in

	£.
1783 - - - -	3,200,000
1784 - - - -	3,950,000
1785 - - - -	6,000,000
1786 - - - -	6,500,000
1787 - - - -	7,500,000

The cotton imported for the manufactures in 1787 was of the follow-growths:

	lb.
Britiſh iſlands eſtimated at - - -	6,600,000
French and Spaniſh ſettlements - -	6,000,000
Dutch ſettlements - - - - -	1,700,000
Portugueſe ditto - - - - -	2,500,000
Eaſt Indies, procured from Oſtend - -	100,000
Smyrna or Turkey - - - -	5,700,000
	22,600,000

The

The application of this cotton to the different branches of manufacture was ſuppoſed by intelligent perſons to have been as follows :

	lb.
To the candlewick branch - - -	1,500,000
To the hoſiery ditto - - - -	1,500,000
To ſilk and linen mixtures - - -	2,000,000
To the fuſtian branch - - - -	6,000,000
To callicoes and muſlins - - -	11,600,000
	22,600,000

The increaſe of value acquired by the raw material in the labour expended upon it in manufacturing, is generally from 1000 to 5000 per cent. By the dexterity of the ſpinners, ſpecimens of yarn have been produced from Eaſt India cotton in which 205 hanks, weighing one pound, have been drawn out from two pounds of the raw cotton; each of theſe hanks meaſures 840 yards, and the whole would reach near 100 miles.

To this ſketch of the progreſs of the *trade* of Mancheſter, it will be proper to ſubjoin ſome information reſpecting the condition and manners of its *tradeſmen*, the gradual advances to opulence and luxury, and other circumſtances of the domeſtic hiſtory of the place, which are in reality ſome of the moſt curious and uſeful ſubjects of ſpeculation on human life. The following facts and obſervations have been communicated by an accurate and well-informed inquirer.

The trade of Mancheſter may be divided into four periods. The firſt is that, when the manufacturers worked hard merely for a livelihood

hood, without having accumulated any capital. The ſecond is that, when they had begun to acquire little fortunes, but worked as hard, and lived in as plain a manner as before, increaſing their fortunes as well by economy as by moderate gains. The third is that, when luxury began to appear, and trade was puſhed by ſending out riders for orders to every market town in the kingdom. The fourth is the period in which expenſe and luxury had made a great progreſs, and was ſupported by a trade extended by means of riders and factors through every part of Europe.

It is not eaſy to aſcertain when the ſecond of theſe periods commenced; but it is probable that few or no capitals of 3000*l.* or 4000*l.* acquired by trade, exiſted here before 1690. However, towards the latter end of the laſt century and the beginning of the preſent, the traders had certainly got money beforehand, and began to build modern brick houſes, in place of thoſe of wood and plaſter. For the firſt thirty years of the preſent century, the old eſtabliſhed houſes confined their trade to the wholeſale dealers in London, Briſtol, Norwich, Newcaſtle, and thoſe who frequented Cheſter fair. The profits were thus divided between the manufacturer, the wholeſale, and the retail, dealer; and thoſe of the manufacturer were probably (though this is contrary to the received opinion) leſs per cent. upon the buſineſs they did, than in the preſent times. The improvement of their fortunes was chiefly owing to their economy in living, the expenſe of which was much below the intereſt of the capital employed. Apprentices at that time were now and then taken from families which could pay a moderate fee. By an indenture dated 1695 the fee paid appears to have been ſixty pounds, the young man ſerving ſeven years. But all apprentices were obliged to undergo a vaſt deal of laborious work, ſuch as turning warping

warping mills, carrying goods on their ſhoulders through the ſtreets, and the like. An eminent manufacturer in that age uſed to be in his warehouſe before ſix in the morning, accompanied by his children and apprentices. At ſeven they all came in to breakfaſt, which conſiſted of one large diſh of water-pottage, made of oat-meal, water, and a little ſalt, boiled thick, and poured into a diſh. At the ſide was a pan or baſon of milk, and the maſter and apprentices, each with a wooden ſpoon in his hand, without loſs of time, dipped into the ſame diſh, and thence into the milk pan; and as ſoon as it was finiſhed they all returned to their work. In George the Firſt's reign many country gentlemen began to ſend their ſons apprentices to the Mancheſter manufacturers; but though the little country gentry did not then live in the luxurious manner they have done ſince, the young men found it ſo different from home, that they could not brook this treatment, and either got away before their time, or, if they ſtaid till the expiration of their indentures, they then, for the moſt part, entered into the army or went to ſea. The little attention paid to rendering the evenings of apprentices agreeable at home, where they were conſidered rather as ſervants than pupils, drove many of them to taverns, where they acquired habits of drinking that frequently proved injurious in after life. To this, in part, is to be attributed the bad cuſtom of gilling, or drinking white wine as a whet before dinner, to which at one period a number of young men fell a ſacrifice.

When the Mancheſter trade began to extend, the chapmen uſed to keep gangs of pack-horſes, and accompany them to the principal towns with goods in packs, which they opened and ſold to ſhop-keepers, lodging what was unſold in ſmall ſtores at the inns. The pack-horſes brought back ſheep's wool, which was bought on the journey, and

ſold

ſold to the makers of worſted yarn at Mancheſter, or to the clothiers of Rochdale, Saddleworth, and the Weſt-Riding of Yorkſhire. On the improvement of turnpike roads waggons were ſet up, and the pack-horſes diſcontinued; and the chapmen only rode out for orders, carrying with them patterns in their bags. It was during the forty years from 1730 to 1770 that trade was greatly puſhed by the practice of ſending theſe riders all over the kingdom, to thoſe towns which before had been ſupplied from the wholeſale dealers in the capital places before mentioned. As this was attended not only with more trouble, but with much more riſk, ſome of the old traders withdrew from buſineſs, or confined themſelves to as much as they could do on the old footing, which, by the competition of young adventurers, diminiſhed yearly. In this period ſtrangers flocked in from various quarters, which introduced a greater proportion of *young* men of ſome fortune into the town, with a conſequent increaſe of luxury and gaiety. The fees of apprentices becoming an object of profit, a different manner of treating them began to prevail. Somewhat before 1760, a conſiderable manufacturer allotted a back-parlour with a fire for the uſe of his apprentices, and gave them tea twice a day. His fees in conſequence roſe higher than had before been known, from 250*l.* to 300*l.*; and he had three or four apprentices at a time. The higheſt fee known as late as 1769, was 500*l.* Within the laſt twenty or thirty years the vaſt increaſe of foreign trade has cauſed many of the Mancheſter manufacturers to travel abroad, and agents or partners to be fixed for a conſiderable time on the Continent, as well as foreigners to reſide at Mancheſter. And the town has now in every reſpect aſſumed the ſtyle and manners of one of the commercial capitals of Europe.

Some

Some other anecdotes reſpecting the manners of the place in the laſt age may prove amuſing from compariſon, however trivial in their own nature.

About the year 1690 there was a great quarrel between the maſter and ſcholars of the grammar-ſchool. The boys locked themſelves in the ſchool, and were ſupplied by the town's people with victuals and beds, which were put in at the windows. They even got fire arms and ammunition, which they employed in firing at the legs of perſons who attempted to get in. This petty rebellion continued a fortnight, ſomewhat to the diſgrace of thoſe who ought to have exerted a better diſcipline.

In 1693, a manufacturer, being in London, learned that one of his cuſtomers, a mercer in Mancheſter, was bound in a large ſum for a Londoner who was expected to break: he thereupon prudently wrote to his wife to go and dun the mercer, adding, "if thou canſt not get "money, take goods—thou mayſt buy thyſelf a ſilk manteau and pet-"ticoat." For a ſenſible and frugal man, who ſet out with very little capital, to ſend ſuch an order to his wife, proves that thoſe articles of finery were not at that time very uncommon.

In a manufacturer's private expenſe-book, under the date 1700, are different ſums paid for two of his daughters who were at London in the houſe of a perſon who managed a warehouſe for him. Among the reſt is paid for a ſpinet 5*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.* In the ſame book, in 1701, is paid 26*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* for a journey to Scarborough, and hire of a coach 13*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* This was the ſea-bathing place of the time, for the journey was on account of a child five years old who died there; and

at

at her funeral, though ſo young, there was paid for gloves 2*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.* When this reputable perſon went to London, his conſtant annual luxuries were Brunſwick mum, beer, and tobacco. In the expenſes for 1702 there is a charge, for the firſt time, of ten ſhillings for coffee and tea. His houſe rent was forty pounds per annum, perhaps including his warehouſe. For ſeveral years, ten ſhillings a quarter is put down for *chapel wages*, or his ſubſcription to the diſſenting meeting-houſe. In 1704 is five pounds for an aſs; an enormous price for the time, from which it is probable that few were then bred near Manchester. For the ſame year is 2*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* for a perriwig, but this was preparatory to a wedding, and double the price of thoſe charged before. This was an expenſive piece of finery for ſuch frugal times.

A proof of the early hours then kept appears in the following fact: In 1705 a manufacturer married a phyſician's daughter who had been genteelly educated and kept a good deal of company. The hour of afternoon viſiting was then *two o'clock*, ſo that for ſome years after her marriage, ſhe had always finiſhed her viſit ſoon enough to go to the Old Church prayers at four. They then dined at twelve; and there being no ſuch thing as a hair-dreſſer, it was eaſy to be ready for viſiting at two.

In 1708 the act paſſed for building St. Ann's church, which in a few years was followed by the ſquare and ſtreets adjoining, where was diſplayed a new ſtyle of light and convenient rooms, very different from thoſe in the reſt of the town. The front parlours however were reſerved for company only; and the family uſually lived in the back parlours. This faſhion continued to our own times, and in ſmall houſes, ſubſiſts in ſome degree at preſent. The great ſums of money brought

brought into circulation by the wars and taxes in queen Ann's reign, and by the ſubſequent commercial ſpeculations, muſt have rapidly forwarded the progreſs of luxury in Mancheſter. Lady Bland of Hulme, who was herſelf a great heireſs, and had married a gentleman of large fortune, was then the chief promoter of whatever could embelliſh the town, or poliſh the taſte of its inhabitants. She had ſubſcribed liberally to the building of St. Ann's church, and the initials of her name were put upon the cover of the communion table. A few years afterwards ſhe was the principal patroneſs of a dancing aſſembly; and a handſome room for the purpoſe was erected upon pillars, leaving a ſpace beneath to walk in. This was in the middle of the new faſhionable ſtreet called King-ſtreet, and opened a convenient paſſage to the new church-yard. The aſſembly was held once a week at the low price of half a crown a quarter; and the ladies had their maids to come with lanthorns and pattens to conduct them home; nor was it unuſual for their partners alſo to attend them. Lady Bland was of a cheerful diſpoſition, and ſo fond of young company, that ſhe had frequent balls in her hall at Hulme, and often, when an old woman, danced in the ſame ſet with her grandſon.

About 1720 there were not above three or four carriages kept in the town. One of theſe belonged to a Madam D—— in Salford. This reſpectable old lady was of a ſociable diſpoſition, but could not bring herſelf to conform to the new-faſhioned beverage of tea and coffee; whenever, therefore, ſhe made her afternoon's viſit, her friends preſented her with a tankard of ale and pipe of tobacco. A little before this period a country gentleman had married the daughter of a citizen of London: ſhe had been uſed to tea, and in compliment to her it was introduced by ſome of her neighbours; but the uſual afternoon's entertain-

entertainment at gentlemens' houſes at that time was wet and dry ſweet-meats, different ſorts of cake and gingerbread, apples, or other fruits of the ſeaſon, and a variety of home-made wines. The manufacture of theſe wines was a great point with all good houſe-wives both in the country and the town. They made an eſſential part of all feaſts, and were brought forth when the London or Briſtol dealers came down to ſettle their accounts and give orders. A young manufacturer about this time having a valuable cuſtomer to ſup with him, ſent to the tavern for a pint of foreign wine, which next morning furniſhed a ſubject for the ſarcaſtic remarks of all his neighbours. In order to perfect young ladies in what was then thought a neceſſary part of their education, a paſtry-ſchool was ſet up in Mancheſter, which was frequented, not only by the daughters of the town's-people, but thoſe of the neighbouring gentlemen. At this time there was a girl's boarding-ſchool; and alſo a dancing-maſter, who, on particular occaſions, uſed to make the boys and girls parade two by two through ſome of the ſtreets; a diſplay which was not very pleaſing to ſome of the baſhful youths of that day.

About this period there was an evening club of the moſt opulent manufacturers, at which the expenſes of each perſon were fixed at four-pence halfpenny, viz. four-pence for ale, and a halfpenny for tobacco. At a much later period, however, a ſix-pennyworth of punch, and a pipe or two, were eſteemed fully ſufficient for the evening's tavern amuſement of the principal inhabitants.*

Annual

* As a proof that even at the *preſent day* ſtrong features of ancient manners exiſt here, we ſhall copy the following anecdote lately communicated:

There now reſides in the market place of Mancheſter, a man of the name of John Shawe, who keeps a common public houſe, in which a large company of the reſpectable Mancheſter

Annual horſe-races at Kerſal-moor were eſtabliſhed about 1730. A ſerious diſſuaſive againſt them was publiſhed in a pamphlet printed at Mancheſter in 1733, the writer of which was probably the celebrated Mr. Byrom. Several circumſtances relative to the town and neighbourhood are mentioned in it; particularly, that even the dancing aſſembly, though from the teſtimony of this writer conducted with the utmoſt decorum, was then conſidered as an improper place for a clergyman to appear at; biſhop Peploe, warden of Mancheſter college, having thought fit to inhibit his clergy from attending it as derogatory from the gravity becoming their characters. The races were however continued till about the year 1745, when they were laid aſide for ſeveral years; but afterwards revived, and are annually held in Whitſun-week to the preſent day, probably not without much injury to ſuch a populous and manufacturing country. By the thoughtleſſneſs of the young people frequenting this diverſion, who make a practice of riding races

Mancheſter tradeſmen meet every day after dinner, and the rule is to call for ſixpenny-worth of punch. Here the news of the town is generally known. The high change at Shawe's is about ſix; and at eight o'clock every perſon muſt quit the houſe, as no liquor is ever ſerved out after that hour; and ſhould any one be preſumptuous enough to ſtop, Mr. Shawe brings out a whip with a long laſh, and proclaiming aloud, "Paſt eight o'clock, "Gentlemen!" ſoon clears his houſe.

For this excellent regulation Mr. Shawe has frequently received the thanks of the ladies of Mancheſter, and is often toaſted; nor is any one a greater favourite with the townſmen than this reſpectable old man. He is now very far advanced in life, we ſuppoſe not much ſhort of 80, and ſtill a ſtrong, ſtout, hearty man. He has kept ſtrictly to this rule for upwards of fifty years, accompanied by an old woman ſervant for nearly the ſame length of time.

It is not unworthy of remark, and to a ſtranger is very extraordinary, that merchants of the firſt fortunes quit the elegant drawing room, to ſit in a ſmall dark dungeon, for this houſe cannot with propriety be called by a better name—but ſuch is the force of long-eſtabliſhed cuſtom!

to

to their reſpective homes, many melancholy accidents annually happen, and many lives are loſt.

In 1710, a manufacturer taking his family up to London hired a coach for the whole way, which, in that ſtate of the roads, muſt probably have made t a journey of eight or ten days. And in 1742, the ſyſtem of travelling had ſo little improved, that a lady wanting to come with her niece from Worceſter to Mancheſter, wrote to a friend in the latter place to ſend for her a hired coach, becauſe the man *knew the road*, having brought from thence a family ſome time before, and alſo becauſe he travelled on cheaper terms than the Worceſter hired coaches.

We are not inclined to enter into the party-hiſtory of Mancheſter, unfortunately too copious a topic. But it ſeems proper to mention, that in 1730-1 a violent parliamentary conteſt was carried on between the whigs and tories reſpecting a workhouſe, the general plan of which ſeems to have been judiciouſly laid, and to have met with univerſal concurrence, but the *management* would by the propoſed bill have been thrown almoſt entirely into the hands of the whigs. Theſe, though ſupported by the miniſtry at that time, met with a defeat, and the ſcheme fell through. Neither can the effects of the laſt rebellion be totally paſſed over, which infuſed ſuch a ſpirit of party-rancour, that the pleaſures of ſociety were greatly interrupted by it. From ſome quarrels that aroſe in the aſſembly between the people of the town and the officers quartered there, the whigs made a ſeceſſion, and two dancing aſſemblies were for ſome years kept up with ſpirit; till the patriotic adminiſtration of the great William Pitt having made an union of parties, the whigs returned to their old room.

In

In the year 1750, there was a ſtand of hackney-coaches in St. Ann's ſquare; but theſe vehicles being found leſs convenient for ſome purpoſes than ſedan chairs, the latter took place of them, and few country towns have been better ſupplied with them. Some perſons who had quitted trade began to indulge in the luxury of a chaiſe of their own to take an airing; but it was not till 1758 that any perſon actually in buſineſs ſet up a carriage.

Mancheſter has long been famous for a pack of remarkably large hounds, which the learned Mr. Whitaker conceives to be the true breed of old Britiſh hounds, once general to the kingdom, though latterly confined to a ſmall tract of the north-weſtern part of it. A pack of a ſmaller breed has alſo for many years been kept there; and the pleaſures of the chace have been ardently purſued by many of the inhabitants.

We ſhall conclude this article with ſome further particulars of the *preſent ſtate* of Mancheſter.

With reſpect to *government*, it remains an open town, deſtitute (probably to its advantage) of a corporation, and unrepreſented in parliament. Its municipal officers are a borough-reeve and two conſtables, elected annually in October at the court leet. The borough-reeve is an officer almoſt peculiar to this place, and who ſeems formerly to have been the chief magiſtrate; but at preſent his proper office is the diſtribution of certain charities, though in point of rank he is conſidered as the firſt man at all public meetings, and takes the chair. The conſtables are the real executive officers.

Mancheſter and Salford, in ſeveral ſtreets and the market place, bear great marks of antiquity, as there are ſtill ſtanding nearly whole ſtreets of houſes built of wood, clay, and plaiſter.

The new ſtreets built within theſe few years have nearly doubled the ſize of the town. Moſt of them are wide and ſpacious, with excellent and large houſes, principally of brick made on the ſpot; but they have a flight of ſteps projecting nearly the breadth of the pavement, which makes it very inconvenient to foot paſſengers. When two people meet one muſt either go into the horſe road, or over the flight of ſteps, which in the night time is particularly dangerous, as the lamps are not always lighted. In the firſt year after obtaining the act for lighting and paving the town, a conſiderable debt was incurred. On this account, Mancheſter was, as before the act, in total darkneſs; but by receiving the money and uſing no oil, the fund has recovered itſelf and the town is now well lighted. But very few of the ſtreets are yet flagged, which makes the walking in them, to ſtrangers, very diſagreeable. There is little doubt but this will in a ſhort time be remedied, and the great ugly projecting flight of ſteps to the houſes taken down. As Mancheſter may bear compariſon with the metropolis itſelf in the rapidity with which whole new ſtreets have been raiſed, and in its extenſion on every ſide towards the ſurrounding country; ſo it unfortunately vies with, or exceeds, the metropolis, in the cloſeneſs with which the poor are crowded in offenſive, dark, damp, and incommodious habitations, a too fertile ſource of diſeaſe! The miſchievous effects proceeding from this cauſe are ſo clearly ſtated, and the remedies ſo ably ſuggeſted, in a paper addreſſed by Dr. Ferriar to the Committee for the regulation of the police in Mancheſter, that we are perſuaded

we

we ſhall do an uſeful ſervice in making it more extenſively known by reprinting the moſt material parts of it.*

The new churches are noble buildings, and moſt of them conſtructed at great expenſe, chiefly of free-ſtone brought by the duke of Bridgewater's canal. Some of the diſſenting meeting houſes alſo are well built and very large.

The number of churches and chapels of the eſtabliſhment in Manchester and Salford, actually built and building, amount to twelve; and

* 1. In ſome parts of the town, cellars are ſo damp as to be unfit for habitations; ſuch places ſhould be reported to the Commiſſioners, by whom proper repreſentations may be made to the owners, that the cellars may be appropriated to other purpoſes. I have known ſeveral induſtrious families loſt to the community, by a ſhort reſidence in damp cellars.

2. The poor often ſuffer much from the ſhattered ſtate of cellar windows. This is a trifling circumſtance in appearance, but the conſequences to the inhabitants are of the moſt ſerious kind. Fevers are among the moſt uſual effects; and I have often known conſumptions which could be traced to this cauſe. Inveterate rheumatic complaints, which diſable the ſufferer from every kind of employment, are often produced in the ſame manner. This ſource of diſeaſe may be expected to admit of eaſy removal, for it cannot be the intereſt of the proprietor of a cellar to have his tenants conſtantly ſick.

3. I am perſuaded, that miſchief frequently ariſes, from a practice common in many narrow back ſtreets, of leaving the vaults of the privies open. I have often obſerved, that fevers prevail moſt in houſes expoſed to the effluvia of dunghills in ſuch ſituations.

In a houſe in Bootle Street, moſt of the inhabitants are paralytic, in conſequence of their ſituation in a blind alley, which excludes them from light and air. Conſumptions, diſtortion, and idiocy, are common in ſuch receſſes.

4. In Blakeley Street, under No. 4, is a range of cellars let out to lodgers, which threaten to become a nurſery of diſeaſes. They conſiſt of four rooms, communicating with each other, of which the two centre rooms are completely dark; the fourth is very ill

and there are about as many places of worſhip for different ſects of diſſenters. By improvements in the revenues of Cheetham's hoſpital, the number of boys now educated in it is eighty. The public library, which was a part of this foundation, has now a very valuable collection of books in all ſciences and languages, amounting to the number of 10,000. By the laſt ſtatement of the rents and

ill lighted, and chiefly ventilated through the others. They contain from four to five beds in each, and are already extremely dirty.

5. The lodging houſes, near the extremities of the town, produce many fevers, not only by want of cleanlineſs and air, but by receiving the moſt offenſive objects into beds, which never ſeem to undergo any attempt towards cleaning them, from their firſt purchaſe till they rot under their tenants. The moſt fatal conſequences have reſulted from a neſt of lodging houſes in Brook's entry, near the bottom of Long-mill-gate, a place which I beg leave to recommend to the ſerious attention of the Committee. In thoſe houſes, a very dangerous fever conſtantly ſubſiſts, and has ſubſiſted for a conſiderable number of years. I have known nine patients confined in fevers at the ſame time, in one of thoſe houſes, and crammed into three ſmall, dirty rooms, without the regular attendance of any friend, or of a nurſe. Four of theſe poor creatures died, abſolutely from want of the common offices of humanity, and neglect in the adminiſtration of their medicines. In ſome other houſes in the ſame neſt, I have known a whole ſwarm of lodgers expoſed to infection by the introduction of a fever patient, yet ſo far infatuated, as to refuſe to quit the houſe till all of them have been ſeized with the diſorder. It muſt be obſerved, that perſons newly arrived from the country are moſt liable to ſuffer from theſe cauſes, and as they are often taken ill within a few days after entering an infected houſe, there ariſes a double injury to the town, from the loſs of their labour, and the expenſe of ſupporting them in their illneſs. A great number of the home-patients of the Infirmary are of this deſcription. The horror of thoſe houſes cannot eaſily be deſcribed; a lodger freſh from the country often lies down in a bed, filled with infection by its laſt tenant, or from which the corpſe of a victim to fever has only been removed a few hours before.

6. The beſt method, perhaps, of giving an effectual check to theſe evils, would be to oblige all perſons letting lodgings to take a licenſe, and to limit them in the number of their lodgers. By the terms of the licenſe, they might alſo be obliged to white-waſh their houſes twice a year, which is a powerful method of preventing infection. When a fever appears

and other income of the Free-ſchool, (including improvements to take place in 1794) the total amount was 2448*l.* from which all expenſes and deductions of every kind, amounting to 1079*l.* being taken, the capital ſum of 1369*l.* is left for future advantages in the literary education of the natives of this town. At the time of the ſtatement, there were one upper, and one under maſter, two aſ-

ſiſtants,

appears in a houſe full of lodgers, all who are uninfected ſhould be immediately removed to a clean houſe, and their clothes ſhould be waſhed and ſcoured. When the fever has ceaſed, the bed-clothes and curtains of the infected room ought to be ſcoured, or otherwiſe cleaned, and a freſh application of white-waſhing ſhould be made. With proper care, indeed, the worſt kind of fever may be confined to the patient's room, without danger to the reſt of the family; but no dependance can be placed on the conduct of the perſons to whom I allude.

When the ſick are deſtitute of beds, they ſhould be ſupplied by the town. It is obvious, that fevers, ſlight in their commencement, muſt be greatly aggravated, and muſt often become dangerous, when the patient lies on a few rags, in a cold garret, or damp cellar.

7. This plan would require the appointment of Inſpectors of lodging-houſes, whoſe buſineſs it would be to viſit houſes which ſhould be reported to them as infected, either by the neighbours, or by any medical gentleman, under whoſe obſervation ſuch places ſhould fall. They ſhould be empowered to take proper ſteps for checking infection whereever it appears, and occaſional inquiries might be made, reſpecting the compliance of perſons letting lodgings with the condition of their licenſes. This would anſwer a very deſirable purpoſe reſpecting the police, independent of the advantages propoſed regarding health. The keepers of the lodging houſes might be required to give an account of the name and occupation of every lodger whom they receive, and to become reſponſible, to a certain degree, for the truth of theſe reports. By this means, a conſtant check might be maintained on houſes, which at preſent are the refuge of the moſt profligate and dangerous part of ſociety.

8. There is a practice, very common in ſmall new buildings, which ought to be diſcouraged; that of putting up fixed windows without caſements. Some part, if not the whole of the window ſhould always be moveable; eſpecially where there is but a ſingle window in the room. From the want of ſuch a regulation, I have been often obliged to order ſeveral panes to be taken out of the window of a fever-room, to obtain a tolerable degree of ventilation.

9. It

ſiſtants, an Engliſh maſter, and eight exhibitioners at the univerſity. Such of the ſcholars as are entered of Brazen-noſe Coll. Oxon. have alſo a chance of obtaining ſome valuable exhibitions ariſing from lands in Mancheſter bequeathed by Mr. Hulme.

In 1786 an Academy was eſtabliſhed in Mancheſter, chiefly by ſubſcriptions among the diſſenters, for the education of youth in the higher branches of literature, which has continued to flouriſh under able and attentive tutors.

No town in England has been more exemplary in the number and variety of its charitable inſtitutions, and the zeal by which they have been ſupported—a zeal in which all ranks and parties have united.

9. It is ſometimes difficult to prevent the maſter of a lodging-houſe from turning a patient out of doors, in the height of a fever, when he apprehends that his other lodgers will deſert him. Some interpoſition of authority ſhould take place, in ſuch caſes, both for the ſake of humanity, and to prevent the unfortunate patient from ſpreading the diſeaſe into a freſh houſe.

10. When a houſe is infected in every room, a nurſe ſhould be provided, on whom dependance can be placed, to prevent unneceſſary viſits from neighbours and acquaintances. About two years ago, a fever of the worſt kind was carried from a lodging-houſe in Salford, where it had attacked all the inhabitants, to another in Milk Street, near the Infirmary, where it ſeized ſeveral perſons, in conſequence of a thoughtleſs viſit made by an acquaintance lodging in Milk Street. In this way, fevers are ſometimes introduced among the ſervants in opulent families.

11. The prevalence of fevers among perſons employed in cotton mills, might be leſſened by an attention on the part of the overſeers to the following circumſtances, beſides a due regard to ventilation. Perſonal cleanlineſs ſhould be ſtrongly recommended and encouraged; and the parents of children ſo employed, ſhould be enjoined to waſh them every morning and evening, to keep their ſhoes and ſtockings in good condition, and above all, never to ſend them to work early in the morning without giving them food.

It is greatly to be wiſhed, that the cuſtom of working all night could be avoided. The continuance of ſuch a practice cannot be conſiſtent with health, and I am glad to find that it does not prevail univerſally.

The

The charities annually diſtributed by the Borough-reeve are the following, according to the ſtatement printed by Mr. Thomas Walker, when he ſerved that office in 1792.

CHARITIES, commonly called THE BOROUGH-REEVE's CHARITIES.

The late Mr. MARSHALL's Charity.

For the relief of "*the poor, aged, needy, and impotent Inhabitants* "*of the Town of Manchester*," was bequeathed in the year 1624, and conſiſted of buildings and lands ſituated in Manchester, which in the year 1750, produced only twelve pounds per annum. This property was ſold in 1781 to the Commiſſioners under an Act of Parliament for Improving certain Streets in the Town of Manchester; with the money ariſing from which ſale, 2250*l.* ſtock in the three per cent. Conſolidated Annuities was purchaſed, which yields annually 67*l.* 10*s.*

The late Mr. CLARKE's Charity.

For the relief of "*the poor, aged, needy, and impotent Inhabitants* "*of the Town of Manchester*," was given by deed dated the 13th of December, 1636, when the whole income was 100*l.* per annum—the neat proceeds the laſt year were 320*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* ariſing principally from lands in Crumpſall, and buildings in Manchester.

The late Mr. SHUTTLEWORTH's Charity.

The intereſt of fifty pounds to be given about Chriſtmas, in linen cloth, "*to poor Perſons inhabiting Deanſgate.*" The principal is now

now in the hands of Mr. Edward Place, and produces annually 2*l.* 10*s.*—This bequeſt was made in the year 1696.

The late Mrs. BENT's Charity.

The intereſt of fifty pounds to be given "*to poor Houſekeepers in "Mancheſter, who are not chargeable to the Town,*" was bequeathed the 31ſt of December, 1773.—The principal is now in the hands of the executors of the late Rev. Humphrey Owen, and produces annually 2*l.* 10*s.*

At the ſame time, Mrs. Bent left the intereſt of fifty pounds, which is likewiſe in the hands of the executors of the late Rev. Humphrey Owen, "*to be given to poor Houſekeepers in the Townſhip of Chetham, "who are not chargeable thereto.*"—The annual produce is 2*l.* 10*s.*

The following account will ſhew the number of poor perſons who have been relieved by the different charities, and the manner in which ſuch relief has been diſtributed:

By the late Mr. SHUTTLEWORTH's Charity.

Two yards one-half of linen cloth, to -	20 poor perſons.

By the late Mrs. BENT's Charity.

Money, to - - - - - - -	47 ditto.

By the late Mr. MARSHALL's, and the late Mr. CLARKE's Charities.

Five yards of linen cloth, to - - -	958 ditto.
One gown, ſeven yards one quarter, to -	228 ditto.
One coat, four yards, to - - - -	26 ditto.
Carried over	1279

One

Brought over	1279
One blanket, to - - - - - -	217 ditto.
Money, to - - - - - - -	112 ditto.
Total number of perſons relieved by the above charities, - - - - - - -	1608

In 1752 an Infirmary was opened, which has gone on gradually increaſing its funds and the extent of its benefits. It accommodates about ſeventy patients in the houſe. In addition to the original plan of out and in-patients, has been added the claſs of home-patients, or thoſe who are attended at their own houſes by the medical gentlemen of the Infirmary, and thus a Diſpenſary has been joined to the firſt inſtitution. The total number of patients admitted in theſe ſeveral claſſes for the laſt year was 6704; the amount of the laſt year's ſubſcription was 2449*l.* Annexed to this building, but a ſeparate foundation, is a Lunatic Hoſpital, eſtabliſhed near thirty years ſince, and ſucceſſively enlarged. It accommodates above ſeventy patients at a time. To the edifices of the Infirmary and Lunatic Hoſpital have been added a range of very commodious baths; cold, warm, and vapour, which are not only uſed by the patients, but admit, at fixed rates, all others who require them.* In 1789 a Lying-in-Hoſpital

* *A Table of the Rates of Subſcription to the Public Baths at Mancheſter, from and after the firſt Day of Auguſt*, 1790.

SUBSCRIBERS OF

	Non Subſcribers, each time.		Half a Guinea, to be charged each time.				One Guinea, each time.				One Guinea and Half, each time.				Two Guineas, each time.			
			Individuals.		Families.		Individuals.		Families.		Individuals.		Families.		Individuals.		Families.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Cold Bath - - - -	0	9	0	5	0	6	0	4	0	5	0	3	0	4	0	2	0	3
Matlock Ditto - - -	1	8	0	10	1	0	0	8	0	10	0	6	0	8	0	5	0	6
Buxton Ditto - - -	1	8	0	10	1	0	0	8	0	10	0	6	0	8	0	5	0	6
Hot Ditto - - - -	4	0	3	0	3	6	2	6	3	0	2	0	2	6	1	6	2	0
Vapour Ditto - - -	6	0	4	3	5	0	3	3	4	0	2	6	3	0	2	0	2	6
Vapour and Hot when uſed together -	7	6	5	3	6	0	4	3	5	0	3	6	4	0	2	6	3	0

It

in-Hoſpital and Charity for delivering poor women at their own houſes, was eſtabliſhed; and in the ſame year, a Humane Society for the recovery of perſons apparently dead by drowning, &c. was inſtituted. A truly philanthropical ſociety under the name of the Stranger's Friend, for the purpoſe of relieving thoſe poor who are not entitled to parochial aſſiſtance, was formed in 1791. The favourite plan of Sunday-ſchools has been extended to about 5000 children annually in this town.

Mancheſter has long been the ſeat of an Agricultural Society, which takes in a circuit of thirty miles round the town, and by its annual premiums has done much to diffuſe a ſpirit of improvement in that eſſential branch of political economy through the neighbourhood.

In 1781 this town had alſo the merit of ſetting an example to the provincial towns of this kingdom by the inſtitution of a *Literary and Philoſophical Society*. The purpoſe of uniting the purſuits of ſcience and literature with commercial opulence was highly laudable; and the ſucceſs with which the plan has been attended, has been manifeſted to the public by the appearance of four volumes in octavo of its Me-

It is propoſed, that individuals or families, ſubſcribing according to the foregoing rates, ſhall have liberty to uſe any of the baths, during the ſpace of twelve months, from the time of paying their reſpective ſubſcriptions: but that at the termination of this period, if the amount of the bathings ſhall exceed that of the ſums advanced, the ſubſcribers ſhall pay the difference, according to the rates ſpecified in the ſeveral diviſions of the table. Under the denomination of a *family*, all perſons conſtantly reſident within the houſe of the ſubſcriber, excepting lodgers, boarders, and ſervants, are meant to be included. Higher prices are propoſed for ſingle bathings, as an additional inducement to ſubſcribe; and this can be deemed no burdenſome impoſition on the ſick, becauſe, whenever the baths are wanted for medicinal purpoſes, a continued uſe of them is required.

Wrapping gowns and towels are to be provided without any expenſe to the bathers; and the ſervants are not allowed to receive gratuities.

moirs

moirs, which have met with a very favourable reception both at home and abroad.

Of other public plans and edifices in this town, we ſhall firſt mention the new priſon or penitentiary houſe called the *New Bayley*, in honour of that very reſpectable man and active magiſtrate, Thomas B. Bayley, Eſq. of Hope, to whom the police of this diſtrict has for many years been moſt highly indebted. In this are adopted all the improvements relative to that part of the police, propoſed in the works of that celebrated philanthropiſt, Mr. Howard, with whoſe name it is inſcribed.* There are cells for ſeparate confinement, different wards and yards for different claſſes of priſoners, and work-rooms for various occupations; as likewiſe a large ſeſſions-houſe and rooms for magiſtrates, council, and jurors. It is ſituated in Salford near the river.

Mancheſter poſſeſſes a neat theatre, an elegant and capacious concert room, and large and commodious aſſembly rooms. It has two commodious market-places near the centre of the town. Another market at the New Croſs, top of Oldham Street, has in ſome meaſure formed

* *Copy of the Inſcription on the Firſt Stone of the New Goal in Salford.*

On the 22d of May, 1787, and in the 27th year of the reign of George III. King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, this GAOL and PENITENTIARY-HOUSE, (at the expenſe of the Hundred of Salford, in the County Palatine of Lancaſter) was begun to be erected; and the firſt Stone laid by THOMAS BUTTERWORTH BAYLEY: and that there may remain to poſterity a MONUMENT of the affection and gratitude of this county, to that moſt excellent perſon, who hath ſo fully proved the wiſdom and humanity of ſeparate and ſolitary confinement of offenders, this priſon is inſcribed with the name of JOHN HOWARD.

itſelf,

itſelf, and is very convenient for this new and populous part of the town. The Croſs ſtands in a wide ſtreet, four great thoroughfares meeting at this point. Over the Irwell are three bridges uniting Mancheſter and Salford; the old ſtone bridge, a wooden bridge flagged over for foot paſſengers, and the new or lower ſtone bridge, which was built by private ſubſcription.

In the year 1776, an act paſſed for widening ſeveral ſtreets near the centre of the town, for which purpoſe a conſiderable ſum of money was raiſed by ſubſcription. The effects produced by it were very advantageous as far as they went; but ſtill, as in almoſt all other old towns, the central parts are too cloſe; and it is only in the more modern ſtreets that elegance and convenience are to be found united.

Salford, which is to Mancheſter what Southwark is to London, is a royalty belonging to the crown, and gives name to the hundred. It has two fairs, one at Whitſuntide, the other in November, for cattle, and alſo for peddling merchandize, hardware, woollen cloths, blanketing, &c. A market would have been opened in Salford, had it not been prevented by a ſtatute requiring a certain diſtance of new markets from thoſe of eſtabliſhed manors. The main part of Salford conſiſts of a wide and long ſtreet leading from the old ſtone bridge to the entrance of the town from Warrington and Bolton. Trinity Chapel in this ſtreet was founded in the reign of Charles I. but has ſince been repaired with an entire new caſe of ſtone. A new church called St. Stephen's was conſecrated in 1794,* and the increaſe of the town has kept pace with that of Mancheſter. The erection of the new ſtone bridge has afforded

* The ground on which this church is built was given by Mr. John Bury, a very opulent and reſpectable timber merchant in Salford.

a much

a much ſhorter road for carriages to moſt parts of Mancheſter than the former one through the whole length of Salford; and ſome capital breweries have been erected in its vicinity, which will have the advantage of being near the courſe of the Bolton canal. In a ſtreet running perpendicularly from the end of Salford next to the foot of the old bridge, and which appears to be the oldeſt part of the town, are the ancient croſs and court-houſe for the hundred.

The ſupply of proviſion to this populous town and neighbourhood is a circumſtance well deſerving of notice. Formerly, oatmeal, which was the ſtaple article of diet of the labouring claſs in Lancaſhire, was brought from Stockport; and the prices of meal and corn in the Friday's market there, ruled thoſe of Mancheſter. In the town, however, corn ground at the ſchool mills was chiefly uſed by families, who ſearced it themſelves, and ſeparated it into fine and bread flour, and bran, for domeſtic uſe. About eighty years ago the firſt London baker ſettled in Mancheſter, Mr. Thomas Hadfield, known by his ſtyptic. His apprentices took the mills in the vicinity, and in time reduced the inhabitants to the neceſſity of buying flour of them, and afterwards at the flour ſhops. Monopolies at length took place in conſequence of theſe changes, which at different times produced riots, one of which, occaſioned by a large party of country people coming to Mancheſter in order to deſtroy the mills, ended in the loſs of ſeveral lives at a fray known by the name of *Shude-hill fight*, in the year 1758. Since that time, the demand for corn and flour has been increaſing to a vaſt amount, and new ſources of ſupply have been opened from diſtant parts by the navigations, ſo that monopoly or ſcarcity cannot be apprehended, though the price of theſe articles muſt always be high in a diſtrict which produces ſo little and conſumes ſo much.

Early

Early cabbages, and cucumbers for pickling, are furniſhed by gardeners about Warrington; early potatoes, carrots, peas, and beans, from the ſandy land on and about Bowden downs. Potatoes, now a moſt important auxiliary to bread in the diet of all claſſes, are brought from various parts, eſpecially from about Runcorn and Frodſham, by the duke of Bridgewater's canal. Apples, which form a conſiderable and valuable article of the diet even of the poor in Mancheſter, uſed in pies or puddings, are imported from the diſtance of the cyder counties by means of the communicating canals, and in ſuch quantities, that upwards of 3000*l.* in a year has been paid for their freight alone. The articles of milk and butter, which uſed to be ſupplied by the dairy-farmers in the vicinity, at moderate rates, are now, from the increaſe of population, become as dear as in the metropolis, and are furniſhed in a ſimilar manner; viz. the milk, by means of milk houſes in the town, which contract for it by the great, and retail it out; and the butter from conſiderable diſtances, as well as ſalt butter from Ireland and other places. Of butcher's meat, veal and pork are moſtly brought by country butchers and farmers; mutton and beef are ſlaughtered by the town butchers, the animals being generally driven from a diſtance, except the milch cows of the neighbourhood, which are fattened when old. The ſupply of meat and poultry is ſufficiently plentiful on market days; but on other days it is ſcarcely poſſible to procure beef from the butchers; nor is poultry to be had at any price, there being no ſuch trade as a poulterer in the whole town. Wild fowl of various kinds are brought to market in the ſeaſon.

With fiſh, Mancheſter is better provided than might be expected from its inland ſituation. The greateſt quantity of ſea-fiſh comes from the Yorkſhire coaſt, conſiſting of large cod, lobſters, and turbots,

bots, of which laſt, many are ſent even to Liverpool, on an overflow of the market. Soles, chiefly of a ſmall ſize, come from the Lancaſhire coaſt. Salmon are brought in plenty from the rivers Merſey and Ribble, principally the latter. The rivers in the neighbourhood abound in trout, and in what is called *brood*, which are young ſalmon from one to two years old, and not eaſily diſtinguiſhed from trout, which they cloſely reſemble in ſhape, but are more delicate to the taſte. Salmon trout is alſo plentiful, and likewiſe fine eels. The Irwell at Mancheſter and for ſome diſtance below is, however, deſtitute of fiſh, the water being poiſoned by liquor flowing in from the dye-houſes. Many ponds and old marl-pits in the neighbourhood are well ſtored with carp and tench, and pike and other freſh water fiſh are often brought to market. The poor have a welcome addition to their uſual fare, in the herrings from the Iſle of Man, which in the ſeaſon are brought in large quantities, and are ſold at a cheap rate.

The ſupply of coals to Mancheſter is chiefly derived from the pits about Oldham, Aſhton, Dukinfield, Hyde, Newton, Denton, &c. at preſent by land carriage; but the canals now cutting will paſs through that tract of country, and greatly facilitate the conveyance. The ſupply from the duke of Bridgewater's pits at Worſley is leſs conſiderable, though a very uſeful addition for the poor.

At each extremity of Mancheſter are many excellent houſes, very elegantly fitted up, chiefly occupied by the merchants of the town, which may in ſome meaſure be conſidered as their country reſidences, being from one to two miles from their reſpective warehouſes. Ardwick-green, to the ſouth of the town, on the London road, is particularly diſtinguiſhed by the neatneſs and elegance of its buildings.

Some

Some years ago it was regarded as a rural ſituation; but the buildings of Mancheſter have extended in that direction ſo far as completely to connect it with the town; and this quarter is principally inhabited by the more opulent claſſes, ſo as to reſemble, though on a ſmall ſcale, the weſt end of the city of London. There is a chapel at Ardwick, and a ſhort time ago, Nathan Hyde, Eſq. who poſſeſſes a ſpacious houſe ſituated in the midſt of pleaſure grounds at this place, made a liberal offer of a piece of land for a new church and burial ground, which will probably be accepted, ſhould the times become again favourable for improvements.

To conclude our deſcription of Mancheſter—we may without heſitation pronounce it to be that of the modern trading towns of this kingdom, which has obtained the greateſt acceſſion of wealth and population. The fortunes which have been raiſed by the ſpirit and ingenuity of its inhabitants from ſmall capitals, have probably exceeded thoſe acquired in any other manufacturing place; and it is but juſtice to ſay, that in no town has opulence been more honourably and reſpectably enjoyed. Upon all occaſions, public or private, the purſes of Mancheſter have been open to the calls of charity and patriotiſm; and whatever differences may have prevailed as to the *mode* of promoting the good of the community, the ardent *deſire* of doing it has pervaded all parties. We are concerned to obſerve the check its proſperity is now undergoing, which is rendered too manifeſt by a variety of circumſtances.* May its cauſes prove only temporary, and be ſucceeded by renewed and augmented ſucceſs!

* The regiſter of the Collegiate Church from Chriſtmas 1793 to 1794 ſtates a decreaſe of 168 marriages; 538 chriſtenings; and 250 burials.

In

In the neighbourhood of Mancheſter are ſeveral old manſions, which are deſerving of ſome notice.

Strangeways-hall is an ancient ſeat of the *Hartleys*, who once owned conſiderable property in and near the town. The laſt deſcendant left his eſtate, it is ſaid, to his houſekeeper, who conveyed it to Mr. Reynolds, father of lord Ducie, the preſent poſſeſſor. Many portraits of the family of Hartley are ſtill remaining there.

An old houſe in Pool-fold, now converted into two public houſes, was the ſeat of a *Ratcliff* in the reign of Charles I. at which time it was ſurrounded by a moat, with a draw-bridge. The poſts and chains were taken away, and probably the moat filled up, about 1672.

Broughton-hall, about or a little before the time of queen Ann, was the property of a *Mr. Stanley*, a deſcendant of one of the earls of Derby, who beſtowed it upon his anceſtor about the time of queen Elizabeth. It is now the ſeat of Samuel Clowes, Eſq.

Smedley-hall was once the ſeat and property of the laſt of the family of *Cheethams* of *Cheetham*. It is now owned by James Hilton, Eſq.

Collyhurſt-hall, about the reign of Charles II. was the ſeat of *Nicholas Moſeley, Eſq.* of the Ancoats family. The late Sir Aſhton Lever poſſeſſed it, and it has ſince been in ſeveral hands.

Hough-hall, commonly called *Hough's-end*, was the ſeat of *Sir Edward Moſeley, Bart.* whoſe daughter married Sir John Bland of Kippax Park, Yorkſhire.

Hulme-

Hulme-hall, an old half-timbered houſe, was the ſeat of the *Preſtwiches*, Baronets, and of the ancient family of *Preſtwich* of *Preſtwich* in the time of the Conqueror. This family, by embarking in the royal cauſe in the civil wars of Charles I. loſt much of their property; ſo that in the reign of king William, *Hulme-hall* and eſtate was ſold and purchaſed by Sir Edward Moſeley, who left it, together with his other eſtates, to his daughter Ann, wife of Sir John Bland, Baronet, who made it her chief reſidence. At the death of their ſon, Sir John Bland, it was ſold to G. Lloyd, Eſq. and it now belongs to the duke of Bridgewater.

Garrat-hall, in the time of Henry VII. belonged to *George Trafford*, Eſq. and his wife Margaret, for whom the boys of the free-grammar ſchool in Mancheſter were bound to pray daily along with other benefactors.

Trafford-hall is enjoyed by a family of the ſame name, which traces its deſcent from anceſtors as far back as the conqueſt.

Ordſall-hall was once owned by a family of *Ratcliffs*, a branch of the Ratcliffs of Ratcliff, which race has ſpread into many once flouriſhing branches, as the Ratcliffs of Ordſall, Foxdenton, Smethels, Wimerley, Chaderton, Mancheſter, Todmorden, and Mellor, and the earls of Fitzwalter and Derwentwater. This moated manſion is now occupied by Mr. Richard Alſop, who holds it under William Egerton, of Tatton, Eſq.

Clayton-hall, ſurrounded by a moat, in the time of Charles I. was owned by the *Byron* family, now lords Byron, barons of Rochdale. It

was

was afterwards ſold to the Cheetham family, and at the death of the laſt Mr. Cheetham, was inherited by Mordecai Green, Eſq. His ſon has ſince parted with it to ſeveral proprietors.

Kerſall-hall is in part owned by the reſpectable family of Byroms, and in part by Samuel Clowes, Eſq. of Broughton. On this ſite once ſtood a ſmall religious houſe founded by the lord who owned the place, and who ended his days here in ſolitude. Coffins and bones have been found in the gardens and orchard of late years.

Edgcroft-hall is poſſeſſed and occupied by the Rev. *John Dauntesey*, whoſe anceſtor married one of the co-heirs of Sir Robert Langley of Edgcroft in the time of queen Elizabeth.

Clifton-hall was once the ſeat of a family of the name of *Holland*, a branch of the ancient family of Holland near Wigan, from whence ſprung the Hollands, earl of Exeter, duke of Suffolk, &c. in the time of the civil wars between the houſes of York and Lancaſter. A family of this name reſided at *Denton-hall* in this pariſh: funeral monuments and coats of arms to their memory are now remaining in Denton Chapel. This family likewiſe owned *Heaton-hall* and eſtate, till the laſt heir female became the wife of Sir John Egerton, Bart. of Rine-hill, Staffordſhire, great grandfather of the preſent lord Grey de Wilton, who reſides at Heaton.

Birch-hall, about the reign of king John was granted by Matthew de Haverſege, to Matthew de Birch, with ſome land in Widdinton (perhaps Withington) by a latin deed without date. Of this family

was

was William Birch, firſt warden of the collegiate church after the reformation; alſo colonel Birch of Birch, a commander in the Parliament army, and one of thoſe who defended Mancheſter when beſieged by James earl of Derby. In a large old houſe at Ardwick near Ancoats-hall, reſided during the latter part of his days Major Birch, an officer in the Parliament army; from whom is deſcended the preſent major-general Samuel Birch, who owns the lime works* and other lands in Ardwick.

Barlow-hall was the reſidence of a family of the ſame name as far back as the reign of Henry VI. but deſcending from a family of the ſame name ſeated at Barlow or Barley, in the county of Derby, as early as the conqueſt. The laſt of the Lancaſhire family who poſſeſſed Barlow, was Thomas Barlow, Eſq. who died about thirty years ago. One Ambroſe Barlow, an Engliſh Benedictine monk, who ſuffered death at Lancaſter on a political account in 1641, is ſuppoſed to have been of this family.

Chorlton-hall within theſe few years was owned and inhabited by the *Minſhull* family, ſprung from the Mynſales, lords of Mynſale in Cheſhire, in the reign of Henry I. It was demiſed in 1590 by Edmond Trafford, Eſq. to Ralph Sorocold for 320*l.*; and in 1644, by Ellis Hey, of Monk's-hall, in Eccles, to Thomas Minſhull, apothecary,

* This lime is of a very valuable ſort, as it anſwers all the purpoſes of plaiſter of Paris, and is uſed in all the aqueducts and works on the canals. In water it becomes as hard and ſolid as ſtone, and is exported to moſt parts of this kingdom. It is uſed for water ciſterns, and feels in the hand ſmooth and ſleek like ſoap. It is wound up from pits of a conſiderable depth by a horſe-gin.

been



E. Dayes del.r P. Rothwell sculp.r

VIEW OF ANCOATS

Publish'd July 24. 1794. by I. Stockdale. Piccadilly.



E. Dayes del.t Scorer sculp.r

VIEW OF HARTSHEAD PIKE.

Publish'd June 1. 1795. by I. Stockdale, Piccadilly.

in Manchefter, for 300*l.* If thefe fums are compared to the many thoufand pounds (fome fay fixty or feventy) for which it has lately been fold, an idea will be given of the amazing increafe in the value of property near Manchefter.

Ancoats-hall, a very ancient building of wood and plaifter, but in fome parts re-built with brick and ftone, is the feat of Sir John Mofeley, Bart. lord of the manor, but is now occupied by William Rawlinfon, Efq. an eminent merchant in Manchefter.—The annexed view, though on a fmall fcale, is a juft repreſentation of the front of the houſe. It is the back part that is chiefly rebuilt.

The pariſh of Manchefter is extenſive, being computed to contain a compafs of fomewhat lefs than ſixty ſquare miles, within which are thirty-one townſhips excluſive of thofe of Manchefter and Salford. It is bounded on the north, by the pariſhes of Preſtwich, Middleton, and Oldham; to the eaſt, by that of Aſhton-under-line; to the weſt, by thofe of Eccles and Flixton; to the ſouth, it reaches the borders of Cheſhire. The population of the townſhips, excluſive of thofe of Manchefter and Salford, was found, at the enumeration in 1773 and 4, to be fomewhat lefs than half the amount of that in thofe towns; and as they are filled with the various branches of the Manchefter manufactory, it may be ſuppoſed that their increafe of population has gone on proportionally to that of the population of Manchefter. Many parts of the pariſh appear like a continued village bordering the high roads for miles. The land is chiefly employed in paſture and meadow, as well as in bleaching and printing grounds, and other purpoſes connected with manufactures. The pariſh contains ten chapelries.

The

The annexed view of Mancheſter is taken from Kerſall-moor, at the diſtance of about three miles. The ſituation affords a pleaſing landſcape, for the fore-ground, enlivened by the beautiful windings of the Irwell.

Mancheſter has not yet afforded much matter for biographical anecdote. The printed accounts of its college have generally contained a brief biography of the wardens; moſt of whom, however, were ſtrangers, and none (except the mathematician and myſtic, Dr. Dee) became ſufficiently eminent in literature to be entitled to particular commemoration. One perſon, who may properly be called a Mancheſter man, has obtained by literary merit the diſtinction of a place in the *Biographia Britannica*, and certainly deſerves notice here. The following account of him is drawn chiefly from that work, though with ſome additions and remarks from other ſources.

ACCOUNT OF JOHN BYROM, *M. A.*

John Byrom, the younger ſon of Mr. Edward Byrom, linen-draper, a branch of a genteel family in Lancaſhire, was born at Kerſall, near Mancheſter, in the year 1691. Having received the rudiments of education in his native place, he was removed to Merchant Taylor's ſchool in London, where he went through the uſual claſſical ſtudies with reputation. At the age of ſixteen he was ſent to the Univerſity of Cambridge; and on July 6th, 1708, was admitted a penſioner of Trinity College, under the tuition of Mr. (afterwards Dr. and Vice-maſter) Baker. Here he purſued the graver ſtudies of the place far enough to take both his degrees in arts; but the bent of his mind declared itſelf for poetry, and the pleaſanter parts of literature. The *Spectator* was at that period the popular work of the time; and it was not uncommon for men



E. Dayes del.r

W.m Wilson sculp.r

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men of ingenuity to eſſay their powers of entertaining the public, in ſome of the papers of that pleaſing and inſtructive miſcellany. Mr. Byrom is ſaid to have contributed the two letters concerning dreams in the 586th and 593d numbers. They are not diſtinguiſhed by any great depth of thought, or vigour of ſtyle, but may deſerve the praiſe of lively conception and elegant morality. But a poem, more certainly of his compoſition, in the 603d number, has obtained a very general and laſting approbation. It is the well-known paſtoral ſong of *Colin and Phœbe*, which has had a place in moſt poſterior collections of poetry of that kind; and by the familiar ſimplicity of its language, and its natural ſentiment and imagery, ſeldom fails to give pleaſure, eſpecially to young readers. Some of the thoughts, nevertheleſs, are not free from the quaintneſs of the Italian ſchool; and the diction ſometimes goes to the extreme verge of the *ſimple*.

In 1714 Mr. Byrom was choſen fellow of his college; and the ſuavity of his manners and pleaſantry of his humour endeared him to his companions, and gained him the favour of his maſter, the celebrated Dr. Bentley. In 1716, however, he was obliged to quit his fellowſhip, not chuſing to comply with the condition required by the ſtatutes of the college, that of taking holy orders. Probably, in common with many other conſcientious men of that period, he was prevented by political ſcruples. Not long after, his health being impaired, he went to Montpellier. During his reſidence in France, he received a ſtrong impreſſion from reading Father Malebranche's *Search after Truth*, and ſome of the devotional pieces of Antoinette Bourignon. The effect of this ſeems to have continued through life; and he remained warmly attached to the viſionary philoſophy of the former, and not a little addicted to the myſtical enthuſiaſm of the latter. In more advanced life it appears from his works that he adopted the congenial notions

notions of the Behmeniſts. If apology were at all neceſſary for a man's ſpeculative opinions, it would be eaſy to adduce examples of a ſimilar turn of mind in perſons highly eſtimable for the qualities both of head and heart.

On his return, he was for ſome time wavering in the choice of a profeſſion, and that of phyſic ſuggeſted itſelf to him, but he did not carry his purpoſe into effect. Either, however, from this intention, or from his character of a literary graduate, he obtained from his acquaintance the title of Doctor, by which he was afterwards univerſally known and addreſſed at Mancheſter. *Some* profeſſion was very deſirable to him, on account of an attachment which at this time took place between him and his couſin, Miſs Elizabeth Byrom; which, after much preſſing ſolicitation on his part, and much oppoſition on that of the young lady's parents, who were rich, terminated at length in marriage. As he received no ſupport from his father, his little fortune was ſoon exhauſted in this new condition; on which account he was obliged to leave his wife with her relations in Mancheſter, and reſort to London in order to make the beſt of his abilities. When at Cambridge, he had invented a new kind of ſhort hand, which for beauty and legibility has obtained great praiſe from the beſt judges in the principles of that uſeful art. This he began to teach profeſſionally at Mancheſter, and he purſued the ſame employment on the greater theatre of London. Among his pupils were ſeveral perſons of rank and quality, one of whom was lord Stanhope, afterwards the celebrated earl of Cheſterfield. It was his cuſtom occaſionally to deliver to his ſcholars a lecture on the utility and importance of ſhort-hand writing, (in which he was an enthuſiaſt) and this, being interſperſed with his natural ſtrokes of humour and vivacity, proved very entertaining. His pupils were much

much attached to him, and uſed to treat him with the jocular title of Grand Maſter. Either from his proficiency in this art, or from his general character as a literary man, he was created a fellow of the Royal Society in March 1724.

The death of his elder brother without iſſue, at length relieved him from this ſtraightened condition. He ſucceeded to the family eſtate at Kerſall, and was at liberty to enjoy that domeſtic felicity which the ſociety of a truly faithful and affectionate wife, and a riſing family of children, aſſured to a man of his amiable diſpoſition. Of the after events of his life, none are recorded of ſufficient importance to give to the public, except that in this work it may be proper to mention the part he took in the oppoſition to the propoſed Mancheſter Workhouſe-bill, at the beginning of the year 1731. In conjunction with Thomas Pigott, Eſq. barriſter at law, he conducted the buſineſs in London; and a ſeries of MSS. letters from them to the committee of the party at Mancheſter, is in the poſſeſſion of the writer of this account. Mr. Byrom's letters, written to an intimate friend and old companion, are an agreeable mixture of buſineſs and pleaſantry, and contain many particulars of the public news of the day, as well as the progreſs of their particular affair. To ſhew the ſpirit with which he entered into the matter, we ſhall tranſcribe a paſſage from his firſt letter after reaching London. "We hope in a little time to be able to communicate our "own endeavours to obviate unfair play, amongſt ſome lords and gen-"tlemen, whoſe intereſt we have begun to lay wait for at ſecond hand, "and hope to do it in perſon; to which if any one ſhall object, as "a piece of medding and impertinence in us, we ſhall anſwer, that "we are not of the man's humour, who being on board a ſhip at ſea, "and a ſtorm ariſing, and being deſired to work a little, for that the "ſhip

" ſhip was in danger of being ſunk, replied, ' What have I to do " with the ſhip? I am but a paſſenger.' We look upon ourſelves em- " barked in the *good ſhip Manchester*, and whenever we apprehend her " in the leaſt danger, are ready to work as hard as if we were never ſo " conſiderable ſharers in her cargo. We profeſs a love and ſervice to " the fellow inhabitants of our country, although we ſhould not have " a foot of land in it, not meaſuring our affection for our brethren by " our's or their acres, but by juſtice, kindneſs, and liberty."

The latter part of Mr. Byrom's life paſſed in the calm round of domeſtic and ſocial employments, and in the amuſement of writing, particularly pieces of verſe on a variety of topics. Verſification of the eaſy unſhackled kind he practiſed, was ſo familiar to him, that no ſubject, however abſtruſe or uncommon, came amiſs; and he poſſeſſed the facility, if not the graces, of Ovid, in this reſpect. Even religious controverſies and literary diſſertations were carried on by him in verſe; but it may readily be imagined, leſs to the delight of the reader, than to his own gratification. Nothing was ſo well ſuited to his ſtyle of writing and thinking as familiar humorous ſtory-telling; and if any of his works deſerve to ſurvive their author, they are a few pieces of this kind. His relation of the combat between Figg and Sutton, two prize-fighters, and of his purchaſe of the head of his favourite Malebranche at an auction, are perhaps the beſt ſpecimens of theſe light effuſions. The latter is unaccountably left out of the collection of his works printed at Mancheſter after his death in two vols. 12mo. in 1773. One of the moſt ſerious of his critical diſſertations in verſe was an attempt to prove, that the true patron ſaint of this kingdom was not the dubious St. George of Cappadocia, but pope Gregory the Great, under whoſe auſpices the Saxons of England were converted

verted to Chriſtianity. But this ſingular hypotheſis was fully confuted in proſe, by that accurate antiquary, the Rev. Mr. Pegge.

Mr. Byrom was much beloved and reſpected at Mancheſter and its vicinity, and though particularly connected with one party, yet gained the eſteem of all, by an inoffenſive cheerfulneſs of manner, and benignity of diſpoſition. He died on the 28th of September, 1763, in the 72d year of his age.

ECCLES PARISH.

THE pariſh of Eccles in its greateſt extent from eaſt to weſt is about nine miles long. Its greateſt breadth from north to ſouth extends four miles. It is a vicarage in the gift of the crown. The church, which ſtands in the village of Eccles, diſtant from Mancheſter four miles and a half, is ancient and large. It formerly (with the pariſh of Dean) belonged to Whalley Abbey in this county; but at the diſſolution of the monaſteries it was made parochial; the great tythes were taken from it, and after paſſing through many lay impropriators, they are now nearly all ſold to the owners of the ſeveral eſtates in the pariſh. From theſe a ſmall reſerved payment, and the glebe, with the dues, form the vicar's ſtipend.

There is nothing peculiar in the climate or ſoil of this pariſh, except its containing Chat moſs, and Trafford moſs, and other ſmaller portions of moraſſy ground, which there is now a reaſonable proſpect of reclaiming,

claiming, by the ſpirited and judicious exertions of Mr. Wakefield of Liverpool.

The agriculture of the pariſh is chiefly confined to grazing, and would be more materially benefited by *draining*; but the tax upon brick, a moſt eſſential article in this proceſs, has been a very great hindrance to it. The uſe of lime (imported from Wales, and brought by the inland navigations to the neighbourhood of our collieries) has become very general in the improvement of the meadow and paſture lands; experience proves its great efficacy in improving the quality of the graſs on all kinds of ſoil, where it is laid on in ſufficient quantities; and on lands properly drained, it nearly has ſuperſeded the uſe of marle. The roads in this, as in all other counties, are become an object of very general and ſerious concern. To make and preſerve theſe in as perfect a manner as poſſible, is indiſpenſable for the intereſts of agriculture and commerce. Much labour, and a very great expenſe of money, have been expended on the roads of this pariſh; but they ſtill remain in a very indifferent ſtate, and from one plain and obvious cauſe, the immoderate weights drawn in waggons and carts. To prevent this, vain and uſeleſs are all the regulations of *weighing machines*; and the encouragement of broad and rolling wheels ſtill increaſes the evil, which muſt ſoon deſtroy all the beſt roads of *Great Britain*, and by their irreſiſtible cruſh exhauſt all the ballaſt or gravel, materials required to repair the miſchiefs they occaſion.

It is the duty of the legiſlature not only to authorize and require good roads to be *made* throughout the kingdom, but alſo to enact ſuch regulations as may *preſerve* them when made; and it is now proved that this can only be done by "ſuch a conſtruction of carriages as will

"*oblige*

" *oblige* them to carry *light* loads, and *not* enable them to carry *heavy* " ones." In ſhort, by encouraging or enforcing the uſe of *ſhort* teams, or *one horſe carts*. Almoſt all the reports of counties to the Board of Agriculture agree in this *important* fact.

The bills of mortality will ſhew the extent and increaſe of the population of the pariſh of Eccles, which is the effect of the great demand for hands in our manufactures.

The invention and improvements of machines to ſhorten labour, has had a ſurpriſing influence to extend our trade, and alſo to call in hands from all parts, eſpecially children for the *cotton mills*. It is the wiſe plan of Providence, that in this life there ſhall be no good without its attendant inconvenience. There are many which are too obvious in theſe cotton mills, and ſimilar factories, which counteract that increaſe of population uſually conſequent on the improved facility of labour. In theſe, children of very tender age are employed; many of them collected from the *workhouſes* in *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and tranſported in crowds, as apprentices to maſters reſident many hundred miles diſtant, where they ſerve unknown, unprotected, and forgotten by thoſe to whoſe care nature or the laws had conſigned them. Theſe children are uſually too long confined to work in cloſe rooms, often during the whole night: the air they breathe from the oil, &c. employed in the machinery, and other circumſtances, is injurious; little regard is paid to their cleanlineſs, and frequent changes from a warm and denſe to a cold and thin atmoſphere, are prediſpoſing cauſes to ſickneſs and diſability, and particularly to the epidemic fever which ſo generally is to be met with in theſe factories. It is alſo much to be queſtioned, if ſociety does not receive detriment from the manner in which

which children are thus employed during their early years. They are not generally ſtrong to labour, or capable of purſuing any other branch of buſineſs, when the term of their apprenticeſhip expires. The females are wholly uninſtructed in ſewing, knitting, and other domeſtic affairs, requiſite to make them notable and frugal wives and mothers. This is a very great misfortune to them and the public, as is ſadly proved by a compariſon of the families of labourers in huſbandry, and thoſe of manufacturers in general. In the former we meet with neatneſs, cleanlineſs, and comfort; in the latter with filth, rags, and poverty; although their wages may be nearly double to thoſe of the huſbandman. It muſt be added, that the want of early religious inſtruction and example, and the numerous and indiſcriminate aſſociation in theſe buildings, are very unfavourable to their future conduct in life. To mention theſe grievances, is to point out their remedies; and in *many* factories they have been adopted with true benevolence and much ſucceſs. But in all caſes "The public have a right to ſee that its mem-"bers are not wantonly injured, or careleſſly loſt."

The advance of population in the pariſh of Eccles has been attended with a due care reſpecting public worſhip, and the religious education of children. Two new chapels of eaſe have been built ſince the year 1775 at Pendleton and Swinton, with competent ſalaries for the clergymen from ſeat rents. In *this mode* of providing the miniſters ſtipend in new-erected churches and chapels, there does not appear a ſufficient recollection of the decreaſing value of money, or a requiſite proviſion to obviate its effects, by a clauſe in the conſecration deeds, to authoriſe a proper advance of the ſtipend as the circumſtance may require, by the direction of the biſhop, or otherwiſe.

The

The excellent inſtitutions of Sunday ſchools were early patronized in Eccles pariſh, and continue to receive the ſteady and liberal ſupport of the pariſhioners. There are now, it is calculated, near one thouſand children regularly taught in theſe ſchools, and with very conſiderable improvement.

In the laſt twenty-five years only two have been added to the number of alehouſes in this pariſh.

Accurate bills of mortality for Eccles pariſh have been yearly printed ever ſince 1776, from which the following extracts are made.——It is to be obſerved, that the diſſenters of all ſorts are included in the general enumeration of families and perſons, though not generally in the liſts of births and burials.

Year.	Chriſts.	Burials.	Marr.	Year.	Chriſts.	Burials.	Marr.
1776	303	331	95	1785	423	310	110
1777	347	248	76	1786	429	363	111
1778	347	207	86	1787	440	327	131
1779	340	337	86	1788	485	384	108
1780	364	289	74	1789	474	392	102
1781	362	248	87	1790	479	455	117
1782	386	237	74	1791	526	415	128
1783	329	358	72	1792	586	480	183
1784	418	268	122	1793	542	560	121

From the pariſh regiſter before the bills were kept in the new form the following liſts are made, in which the average numbers during periods of ten years each, are ſtated.

Years.

Years.	Chriſts.	Bur.	Years.	Chriſts.	Bur.
1700—1710	118	89	1740—1750	194	138
1710—1720	120	106	1750—1760	178	151
1720—1730	152	197	1760—1770	229	177
1730—1740	168	134	1770—1776	321	223

An uncommon and very valuable article in the new bills, is an annual ſtatement of the population of the whole pariſh, from which we ſhall copy a few periods to ſhow the gradual increaſe.

		Families.	Inhab.
1776	In Worſley - -	522	2725
	Barton - -	735	3742
	Pendleton, Pendlebury, and Clifton	391	2256
		1648	8723

		Families.	Inhab.
1780	In Worſley - -	560	3020
	Barton - -	740	3958
	Pendleton, Pendlebury, and Clifton	390	2170
		1690	9148

		Families.	Inhab.
1785	In Worſley - -	609	3464
	Barton - -	785	4341
	Pendleton, Pendlebury, and Clifton	437	2717
		1831	10,522

In

		Families.	Inhab.
1790	In Worſley - -	742	4227
	Barton - -	922	5085
	Pendleton, Pendlebury, and Clifton	542	3118
		2206	12,430

		Families.	Inhab.
1793	In Worſley - -	817	4693
	Barton - -	1004	5646
	Pendleton, Pendlebury, and Clifton	634	3926
		2455	14,265

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PARISH.

THIS pariſh is ſituated in the ſouth-eaſtern corner of the county. Aſhton itſelf is a ſmall but populous town, which has received a great increaſe of late years, and now conſiſts of ſeveral ſtreets of well-built, commodious houſes. It ſtands on a riſing ſituation on the north ſide of the Tame. There was formerly a market held here every Wedneſday, at a place where an ancient croſs is ſtill ſtanding; but it has been diſcontinued above thirty years, though ſuch a convenience is now particularly wanted from the augmented population.

The earl of Stamford, to whom the town and a principal part of the pariſh belongs, holds a court leet here yearly, where his agent preſides

as judge, and all diſputes, breaches of truſt, rights of tenants, together with actions of debt under forty ſhillings, are cognizable. It appears from a very ancient manuſcript now in the poſſeſſion of Joſeph Pickford, Eſq. of Royton, containing the rent-roll and ſeveral very curious particulars concerning the eſtate, drawn at a remote period, to have been a borough; but why the charter was withdrawn, or by what means the privilege was loſt, there is no account: yet the cuſtom of yearly nomination, and the inſignia of office, are ſtill kept up by the inhabitants.

There is nothing that excites the curioſity of a ſtranger ſo much at this place as the annual cuſtom of *Riding the Black Lad*, which is always celebrated on Eaſter Monday. There are different traditions concerning the origin of this extraordinary circumſtance, and the idea is generally prevalent, that it is kept up to perpetuate the diſgraceful actions of Sir Ralph Aſhton, who in the year 1483, under the authority of vice conſtable * of the kingdom, exerciſed great ſeverity in this part of the country. The following are the particulars of the ceremony. An effigy in the human form, which is made of ſtraw, incloſed in a coarſe wrapper, and ſeated on a horſe, is firſt led through the town, after which it is hung up at a croſs in the market-place, and there ſhot away in the preſence of a large concourſe of the neighbouring people, who always attend to be ſpectators of the exhibition. Yet from a ſum iſſued out of the court to defray the expenſe of the effigy, and from a ſuit of armour which till of late it uſually rode in, together with other particulars handed down by tradition, a very different account of the origin of this cuſtom is preſerved, of which the following is the ſubſtance:

* The commiſſion is ſtill to be ſeen in *Rymer's Fœdera*.

In

In the reign of Edward the Third, ſurnamed of Windſor, lived Thomas Aſhton, of Aſhton-under-lyne, of whom nothing but the following particulars are known: In the year 1346, when the king was in France, David king of Scotland brought an army into the middle of this kingdom; and at Nevil's Croſs near Durham, Edward's queen, with the earl of Northumberland as general, gained a complete victory over the Scots, about the ſame time that her huſband obtained a great victory in France. In this battle, Thomas Aſhton, one of her ſoldiers, but in what ſtation is unknown, rode through the ranks of the enemy, and bore away the royal ſtandard from the king's tent, who himſelf was afterwards taken priſoner. For this act of Aſhton's heroiſm, when Edward returned from France, he gave him the honour of knighthood, and the title of Sir Thomas Aſhton, of Aſhton-under-lyne: and to commemorate this ſingular diſplay of his valour, he inſtituted the cuſtom above deſcribed, and left the ſum of ten ſhillings yearly to ſupport it, (within theſe few years reduced to five) with his own ſuit of black velvet, and a coat of mail, the helmet of which is yet remaining.

Aſhton has a large and ancient church, furniſhed with a fine ring of ten bells, and a large organ erected by the ſubſcription of the inhabitants. Under the ſeats of ſome of the pews are rude carvings on wood, relating to different families in the neighbourhood, of a very old date. Several of theſe are preſerved, though the church has been newly pewed. A popular tale is current concerning a ſuppoſed ace of ſpades cut upon the ſouth ſide of the ſteeple. This has been found by Mr. Barritt to be an old triangular ſhield charged with a mullet, the arms of Aſhton, impaling the arms of Stealey, of Stealey, in that neighbourhood, which ſeems to denote that a lady of that family married to an Aſhton was a liberal contributor towards the building. The living is a valuable rectory in the gift of the earl of Stamford, now in the poſſeſſion of the Rev. Sir George Booth, Bart. Near the church is a building of great antiquity,

antiquity, called the Old Hall, which is ſuppoſed to have been built about the year 1483, at preſent occupied by Mr. Brooke. Adjoining to it is an edifice which has the appearance of a priſon, and till of late years has been uſed as ſuch; it was formerly regarded by the inhabitants as a ſort of Baſtille to the place. It is a ſtrong rather ſmall building, with two round towers overgrown with ivy, called the dungeons, but which appear to have been only conveniences for the priſoners, as they have door places, a flag for the feet, and a rail to prevent them from falling backwards, with drains from the bottom; and they are not large enough for a perſon to live in. The priſon is now occupied by different poor families. It has two court-yards, an inner and an outer, with ſtrong walls. Over the outer gate was a ſquare room aſcended to from the inſide by a flight of ſtone ſteps, and very ancient. It has always gone by the name of the Gaoler's Chapel, as it was ſuppoſed that prayers were occaſionally read in it to the priſoners. The annexed view will give a good idea of its ſtate in 1793, juſt before it was taken down. The houſe to the inner court is ſtill ſtanding, and in tolerable repair. It is inhabited by a venerable and very aged man, who remembers the gate being open through the houſe about ſixty years ago. The other view annexed is of the two ſuppoſed dungeons and back part of the priſon, taken at the ſame time. On the other ſide is a view of the back front of the Old Hall adjoining the priſon, overlooking the gardens and river Tame, with a beautiful proſpect. On this ſide of the building are ſtrong parts of immenſe thickneſs with numbers of loop holes. This view was taken from Spring Paſture. At a ſhort diſtance is a meadow well known by the name of Gallows-field, doubtleſs the place of execution when the lord of Aſhton had power of life and death.

Aſhton is joined by two very conſiderable hamlets of houſes, built in the beginning of the American war, and called *Boſton* and *Charleſtown*, after the places of that name in New-England. It alſo extends in every direction



E. Dayes delin.t R. Newman sculp.t

VIEW OF JAILERS CHAPEL



E. Dayes del.t Sansom sculp.t

THE DUNGEONS.

Pub.d June 4, 1795. by I. Stockdale, Piccadilly.



VIEW OF OLD HALL.



Sweetman del.r

Pollard sculp.r

VIEW OF ASHTON UNDER LINE.

Publish'd July 21 1794 by J. Stockdale Piccadilly

direction towards the neighbouring towns. It is well ſupplied with water, except about two months in the ſummer, when the inhabitants are obliged to fetch their ſoft water in carts from the Tame. This river abounds with trout. It is alſo of the higheſt utility to the machinery of the woollen and cotton factories of the neighbourhood; it being reckoned that within the ſpace of ten miles from Aſhton there are near 100 mills upon this ſtream and its tributary branches. The annexed view of the town was taken from the terrace in the front of Dukinfield-lodge, an eminence looking down to the Tame and Dukinfield-bridge, about half a mile from the church. On the right is the priſon; on the left, the town, ſtretching towards Mancheſter.

Coals are got at the very edge of the town in abundance, whence they will be conveyed to Mancheſter by the canal which is now nearly finiſhed. Its advantages to the town and neighbourhood will be ineſtimable, particularly in the improvement of the ſoil by lime and other manures. At a ſhort diſtance from Aſhton, on the Mancheſter road, is an extenſive moſs, from the edges of which the ſurrounding poor cut turf, which ſupplies them with fuel. The turf is cut away till the diggers come, at about ten feet depth, to a tolerable ſoil of loam, which on proper improvement becomes good meadow land. The moſs itſelf is a ſhaking bog, which nevertheleſs can be croſſed in any ſeaſon, and probably might be made ſolid ground by means of judicious draining. Red fir trees are frequently found in it, which, being freſh and full of turpentine, ſerve, when ſplit, the purpoſe of candles to the poor; alſo numbers of large oak trees perfectly ſound and as black as ebony.

Aſhton and its townſhips have rapidly increaſed in population, with the increaſe of manufactures. From an enumeration made in 1775, it appears that there were,

In

In the town,	553 houſes,	599 families,	2859 inhabitants.
In the pariſh,	941 ditto.	971 ditto.	5097 ditto.

The pariſh regiſter of births and burials is as under:

Years.	Chriſten.	Bur.	Years.	Chriſten.	Bur.
1765	235	159	1784	422	187
1770	281	167	1785	427	201
1775	323	239	1786	409	175
1776	230	131	1787	428	351
1777	324	180	1788	438	244
1778	350	174	1789	412	232
1779	342	199	1790	469	259
1780	348	180	1791	461	185
1781	364	200	1792	572	308
1782	373	186	1793	545	348
1783	353	237	1794	399	399

The following Epitaph may be ſeen on a tomb in Aſhton church-yard in pretty good repair:

" Here reſteth the body of JOHN LEECH, of Hurſt, buried the " 16th day of October 1689, aged 92 years, who by ANNE his " wife had iſſue 12 children, and in his life-time was father to 12, " grandfather to 75, great grandfather to 92, great great grandfather " to 2, in all 181 perſons."

Upon the tomb there has been ſomething or other like a coat of arms, upon the top of which is entwined a Serpent, which tradition ſays he kept tame in his houſe.——Motto, " *Virtus eſt venerabilis.*"

The following liſt of houſes in the ſeveral diſtricts, paying the win dow taxes, was taken in 1793.

Aſhton

Aſhton town	279	Moſley	65
Boſton	28	Smallſhaw	22
Charleſtown	23	Hurſt	108
Audenſhaw, including Hooley-hill	238	Luzly and Towracre	40
Knott-lanes	202	Ridghill-lane, or Staley-bridge	112
Hartſhead	37	Total	1154

It is certain, however, that this is very ſhort of the real number, as evidently appears by compariſon with the return of houſes in the town in 1775, ſince which period it has manifeſtly received a great increaſe.

The town of Aſhton, including Boſton, Charleſtown, Botany-Bay, Hurſt, and the adjoining buildings on the Mancheſter, Moſley, and Staley-bridge roads, with the new ſtreet, &c. near the church, cannot be much ſhort of 1,600 houſes. In this town five inhabitants may ſafely be reckoned to a houſe, making in all 8000 ſouls. Staley-bridge, Oldham, Dukinfield, Hooley-hill, Audenſhaw, Openſhaw, with the other towns and villages in this neighbourhood, have increaſed nearly in the ſame proportion as Aſhton.

With reſpect to the ſchool, the appointment of a maſter is jointly betwixt the earl of Stamford and the Rev. Sir George Booth, Rector. The inſcription is as follows:—"Given by the Right Hon. George "earl of Warrington, and rebuilt by the pariſh anno Domini, 1721." The ſalary is three pounds per annum with a ſmall houſe over the ſchool; the three pounds paid from Crime eſtate.

Staley-bridge, near two miles above Aſhton-under-lyne, has an excellent ſtone bridge acroſs the Tame. A little below it another was lately

lately built by the late John Aſtley of Dukinfield, Eſq. for the convenience of his own eſtate. The place is now a very large and extenſive village, the houſes well built, ſome of ſtone, but the greateſt part of brick. On an eminence ſtands an octagon chapel of the church of England, in which is an organ. Part of the village is on the Cheſhire ſide of the Tame, but by far the greateſt in Lancaſhire, in a continued ſtreet of half a mile, well paved. The greateſt part of this village, as well as the chapel, has been built in the laſt eighteen years.

This place has been famous, for a great length of time, for woollen cloth, dyers and preſſers, as well as weavers. Theſe branches ſtill continue to flouriſh. Here and in this neighbourhood commences the woollen manufactory, which extends in various directions as we proceed to Saddleworth. Here is an old hall, long in the poſſeſſion of a family of the Kenworthy's, who are principally concerned in the clothing buſineſs, but the great ſupport of the place has for ſome time paſt been the cotton trade. The annexed view was taken from below the bridge.

On a high ground on the Cheſhire ſide of the Tame, about two miles above Staley-bridge, is ſituated Staley-hall, the old family ſeat of the Staleys. It is a roomy, ſpacious houſe with extenſive barns and ſtables of modern date, ſtrong and well built with ſtone. The annexed view was taken at the bottom of the yard.

In the back ground is a diſtant view of Bucton Caſtle. The ſtabling, &c. forms a wing on the left, but being of great extent could not be brought into ſo ſmall a compaſs. It is now a farm-houſe in the occupation of a Mr. Morſe, with very extenſive poſſeſſions belonging to it, bordering on the Yorkſhire moors. A new turnpike road from Staley-bridge



P. Dayes delin. Eastgate sculp.

VIEW OF STALEY BRIDGE.

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P. Dayes delin.t Murray sculp.t

VIEW OF STALEY HALL.



E. Dayes delin.t

Eastgate sculp.t

VIEW OF SCOUT MILL.

bridge paſſing this hall into Yorkſhire, is nearly finiſhed, and the canal from Aſhton, running up this valley at the ſide of the Tame, is carrying on with ſpeed.

A little above Staley-hall, on the Lancaſhire ſide of the Tame, ſtands *Scout Mill*, a place well known to the ſurrounding neighbourhood, partly from its very rural and romantic ſituation, and partly for its melancholy and unfortunate inhabitants. For many years it has been in the occupation of Mr. Wilſon, a reſpectable man, now very far advanced in life, who has long had the care of inſane perſons, but has now in a great meaſure declined it. A few are ſtill under the care of his ſon. The mill is now uſed in the cotton branch. It is deſcended to from the turnpike road near Moſley by a long ſteep hill, with a lofty broken ground, nearly perpendicular to the river, overhung by a fine wood. The annexed view was taken from a rock in the middle of the river, in order to comprehend the beautiful fall of water at the Wear. In the back ground is a view of the high hill on which ſtood Bucton Caſtle.

Moſley is a conſiderable village, with upwards of 100 houſes, many of them large and well built, chiefly of ſtone. It is about three miles from Aſhton, in the high road to Huddersfield, with a large chapel in the gift of or under the rector of Aſhton.

Near this ſtands Hart's-head Pike,* a favourite and well-known object for the ſurrounding country, which is ſeen at a conſiderable diſtance, and in general has been ſuppoſed to be a ſea mark. It is ſituated

* For a view of this Pike ſee page 211.

on

on very high ground betwixt Oldham and Moſley, from whence the traveller has a moſt delightful view of the ſurrounding country. We have aſcertained, from good authority, that it was formerly uſed as a beacon, and there are others in the neighbourhood to anſwer it. It was rebuilt of ſolid ſtone in 1758, and is of conſiderable height and circumference. It is now ſplit from top to bottom near half a yard in width. A few pounds laid out in repairs, if done in time, might preſerve this pile for a century to come. On the top are the ſmall remains of a weather-cock, probably a hart's-head.

Fairfield is a new ſettlement belonging to the Moravians, near four miles from Mancheſter and within two fields of the Aſhton turnpike road. Though eſtabliſhed within theſe twenty years it has the appearance of a little town. There is a large and commodious chapel, with an excellent organ. The ground plot is laid out with great taſte and judgement. It forms a large ſquare. The chapel and ſome large dwelling houſes well built of brick form the front. On each ſide of the chapel are two deep rows of dwelling houſes; on the back front behind the chapel is a row of elegant large houſes. Theſe, with the chapel, form a large ſquare maſs of buildings, round which is a broad paved ſtreet, and the whole is flagged round. On the outer ſide of the ſtreet is another row of excellent buildings, which ſurrounds the whole, except the front; at a ſhort diſtance from which is a fine row of kitchen gardens, and oppoſite to the chapel a large burying ground; the whole divided and ſurrounded with quickſet hedges. One of the houſes is a convenient inn with ſtabling, &c. for the accommodation of thoſe who frequent the place.

The



T. Swertner del.

Walker Sculpt

View of Fairfield

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The neatneſs of the whole has a very pleaſing appearance, and the place is frequented by numbers from Mancheſter. The annexed view is taken from the right of the turnpike road leading from Mancheſter.

The cotton manufactory forms a principal part of the employment of the inhabitants, including ſpinning, weaving, &c. Tambour and fine needle-work is carried to a great pitch of perfection, and is chiefly ſent to London. There are alſo in this ſettlement taylors, ſhoemakers, bakers, and a ſale ſhop for moſt articles, as well for the convenience of the ſettlement, as for the neighbourhood.

The Mancheſter, Aſhton, and Oldham canal comes cloſe to this place, which will be of infinite advantage to it, as well for the carrying of goods to and from Mancheſter and Aſhton, as for procuring a ſupply of coals nearly as cheap as at the pit.

At a ſhort diſtance is *Shepley-hall*, pleaſantly ſituated on the banks of the Tame, and now in the occupation of Thomas Phillips, Eſq. adjoining to it are the very large cotton factories and extenſive bleaching grounds of Meſſrs. Phillips and Lowe.

The people of Aſhton and the neighbourhood about ſixty years ago were almoſt wholly employed in ſpinning cotton wefts for check-makers or twiſt to make fuſtian warps. They likewiſe furniſhed ſingle cotton harder thrown to make warps for ſlight goods. Of late they have fallen more into the practice of making twiſt and warps for velverets, cotton thickſets, &c. The inhabitants of ſeveral of the townſhips near Hooley-hill are employed in a hat manufactory lately ſet up at a new village called Quebec, on the road from Aſhton to Stockport.

PREST-

PRESTWICH PARISH.

PRESTWICH-CUM-OLDHAM conſtitutes one rectory, though the pariſhes are, in ſome reſpect, ſeparate. The proper pariſh of Preſtwich contains the following townſhips, to which the number of families, taken at three different periods, is annexed:

	In 1714	1789	1792
Preſtwich	94	282	291
Two Heatons	40	141	148
Whitefield	148	149	556
Unſworth	(not returned)	115	151
Outwood	63	156	183
Alkrington and Tong	25	129	152
Families	370	1314	1481

The progreſs of population is further ſhown by the following extracts from the pariſh regiſter of Preſtwich:

Year.	Bapt.	Bur.	Marr.	Year.	Bapt.	Bur.	Marr.
1700	51	58	23	1760	78	61	78
1710	50	41	27	1770	126	139	126
1720	48	53	28	1780	155	126	199
1730	49	89	46	1790	201	209	244
1740	101	73	48	1791	210	185	259
1750	83	64	40	1792	174	192	257

It is to be remarked, that the building of new chapels of eaſe (of which there are now ſeven in the united pariſhes) cauſes great fluctuations in the articles of chriſtenings and burials at the pariſh church.

Preſt-

Preſtwich pariſh is about fifteen miles in length and three in breadth. Its ſoil is very indifferent, though it has been much improved of late years by manuring and draining. Lime is the principal manure made uſe of. The great demand for milk and butter at Mancheſter has diminiſhed the quantity of tillage, ſo that there is probably little more than half the land in that ſpecies of cultivation that there was about fifteen years ſince. The grain and ſtraw produced are generally for the farmer's own conſumption, and the land is only now and then broken up to keep it in good condition, and turn up the lime, which naturally keeps ſinking. The tithes are for the moſt part paid by a moderate compoſition: 20*s*. per Cheſhire acre for wheat; 15*s*. for barley, (of which very little is grown;) and 10*s*. for oats. The living is of the clear yearly value of about £.700. The principal ſeats in the Preſtwich part of the pariſh are thoſe of lord Grey de Wilton at Great Heaton; the late Sir Aſhton Lever at Alkrington; Peter Drinkwater, Eſq. at Irwell-houſe; and Thomas Phillips, Eſq. at Sedgeley.

The air of Preſtwich is pure and ſalubrious, as the following note will teſtify:——In the year 1747, May the 1ſt, the ages of the then rector, curate, churchwarden, clerk and his wife, ſexton and his wife, were as under:

	Years.
Doctor Goodwin	70
Mr. Scholes, curate	78
Ralph Gueſt, churchwarden	85
Robert Diggle, pariſh clerk	85
Ann Diggle his wife	78
Edmund Berry, ſexton	76
Mary Berry	86
	558

Heaton-

Heaton-houſe, the ſeat of lord Grey de Wilton, about four miles from Mancheſter, is beautifully ſituated on an eminence in a rich park, highly manured and well wooded.

This truly elegant ſeat is built from a deſign of Wyat. The centre is a circular projection with a dome at the top, that gives the whole a fine effect. It is not compoſed of either of the five orders, but approaches neareſt to the Ionic. The apartments are truly noble, and fitted up in the firſt ſtyle of elegance. One room in particular is ornamented in the compartments by the inimitable pencil of Rebecca. From the temple in the park is a moſt delightful view over an extenſive and well-wooded country.

The annexed view will give a better idea of the ſimplicity and elegance of the building than any deſcription.

OLDHAM PARISH.

OLDHAM is a parochial chapelry, connected with Preſtwich, conſiſting of four townſhips, *Oldham*, *Royton*, *Chaderton*, and *Crompton*.

OLDHAM contains one church and a chapel of the eſtabliſhment, and a methodiſt and a diſſenter's meeting-houſe. The town is pleaſantly ſituated on a high eminence commanding an extenſive and delightful proſpect, and is inhabited by a number of reſpectable families. The chief ſeat in the townſhip is that of the Greggs of Chamber-hall; now

C. Grego del.

Beaver sculp.

VIEW OF HEATON HOUSE.

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now Hopwood of Hopwood. The hat manufactory and that of ſtrong fuſtians are carried on to a conſiderable extent in this town, chiefly for the Mancheſter market. Coals are found in great plenty in the ſeveral townſhips, which, beſides ſupplying the neighbourhood, are ſent in large quantities to Mancheſter. The price of thoſe of the beſt quality is 5*d.* per cwt. at the pit. Branches of the rivers Irk and Irwell extend through theſe townſhips, by which a conſiderable number of machines are worked in the cotton and woollen manufactories. The ſoil is chiefly black loam and clay. Marl is met with in moſt parts. The produce of corn, potatoes, and other articles of proviſions, is very inadequate to the ſupply of the inhabitants, who are chiefly fed out of the neighbouring counties. The encloſed land is eſtimated at about 3590 ſtatute acres, and the waſte land at 435. The trees are a little oak, aſh, plane, and fir, chiefly in the hedge-rows. Lime for manure and other purpoſes is brought from the Peak in Derbyſhire and from Ardwick, and comes high. A good deal of hay is brought every year from Yorkſhire and Cheſhire. The poor's rate for 1793 was about 3*s.* per pound of the full value of land. The farms are ſmall. The value of land varies from 7*s.* to 7*l.* per acre, ſeven yards to the perch. The tithe of grain is taken in kind. The ſmall tithes are compounded for by a ſmall modus. A turnpike road from Mancheſter to Huddersfield runs through Oldham, and another from Mumps near Oldham through Lees and Saddleworth joins the former at Standedge.

Royton, ten miles eaſt of Mancheſter, contains 576 ſtatute acres of encloſed land, and has (Octob. 1793) 424 inhabited and 26 new houſes, total 450; and 2511 inhabitants. Of the houſes, only 118 are aſſeſſed to the window tax, though almoſt all the omitted ones are rated

rated to the church and poor. There are in this townſhip five mills moved by water, four horſe mills for carding cotton, one fulling mill for the Rochdale baizes manufactured in the neighbourhood, and one large malt kiln. From this variety of employ population has more than doubled ſince 1772, in which year the inhabitants were 1105.

The ſoil is for the moſt part dry and ſandy, a few acres only wanting draining. There is no waſte land. The proportion of arable is ſmall to that of meadow and paſture. The manures are marl, got in the townſhip; lime, brought from Ardwick near Mancheſter or Buxton; and black muck. The products are oats, potatoes, and a few turnips; ſeldom any wheat, the vicinity of the hills making it ſubject to mildew from damps. Theſe are conſumed on the ſpot, but are not ſufficient for the wants of the people, who are ſupplied from the Mancheſter market. The timber is in hedge-rows and ſome ſmall plantations. There are no woods. The farms are ſmall, from 10 to 30 and 40*l.* per annum. The rent per acre very various, the meadows higheſt. Tithes are compounded for at 7*s.* 8¼*d.* per acre, Lancaſhire meaſure, for oats, and double that for wheat. The greater part of the vicarial tithes are compounded for by a modus, and paid with the Eaſter dues. The living is a chapelry under Preſtwich, value about eighty pounds; preſent curate, Rev. Richard Berry. The chapel was erected by ſubſcription in 1754. There is a quaker's meeting-houſe in the townſhip.

Three branches of the *Irk* take their riſe in this townſhip, as alſo one of the *Bail*, a ſtream which joins the Roch. Theſe ſtreams are ſubject to frequent floods from the quantity of rain which falls here, but on account of the height of the ground they ſoon ſubſide.

The



VIEW OF ROYTON HALL.

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The manufactures of the place are the different branches of the cotton trade, eſpecially the heavy fuſtians. The raw materials come from Mancheſter by land carriage, and the made goods are ſent thither to the Tueſday's markets. A number of hands are alſo employed by the *putters-out* on account of the merchants in Mancheſter. The manufactures employ all the people, except ſome colliers, ſhop-keepers, and huſbandmen. The gains are from 2*d.* per day by young children, to 3*s.* 6*d.* and 4*s.* by grown people. Women will ſometimes earn 16 and 17*s.* per week by ſpinning with a jenny.

Coals are a conſiderable product in this townſhip, more than half of it containing valuable beds of this mineral. They have been worked here about 100 years back. The preſent price at the pit is 10*d.* the horſe load, weighing 280lb. and meaſuring two baſkets, each thirty inches by twenty, and ten inches deep. The quantity worked is, by the neareſt computation, about 315 tons 17½ cwt. per week. They lie from 20 yards to 100 and upwards from the ſurface, in different beds, dipping to the S. S. W. one yard in five and a half. Some of the beds are ſix feet thick. The coals are ſent to Mancheſter and other parts in the neighbourhood in carts. Some free-ſtone is got in the townſhip, and ſold at 4*d.* per foot.

There is a good chalybeat ſpring in the townſhip.

Royton-hall, the ſeat of Joſeph Pickford, Eſq. formerly belonged, together with vaſt poſſeſſions in theſe parts, to the lords Biron. It is pleaſantly ſeated in a deep valley, ſurrounded by high grounds. It is a firm, well-built ſtone edifice of ancient date, remarkable for an uncommonly ſtrong and heavy round ſtaircaſe, like that of a church, but more

more maſſy. In the front of the houſe runs a ſmall ſtream, dividing the gardens from rich meadows. The annexed view gives a juſt repreſentation of the houſe, and part of the town of Royton, with a ſummer-houſe in the adjoining walled park, built upon a hill called the Sun Low, whence is a very extenſive proſpect of the circumjacent country, as far as the Welch mountains.

A very providential eſcape from danger which happened in the houſe of Mr. Pickford, is worth recording. On April 10th, 1790, in the morning, a tremendous guſt of wind blew down two very large chimnies in the front of the houſe, each raiſed to the height of eighteen feet, in order to prevent ſmoaking. They fell acroſs the weſt gable roof covered with thick and ponderous ſlates, broke the beams, and brought the whole down together through three heights of chambers, into the cellars. Two of Mr. Pickford's daughters were in bed in the uppermoſt chamber, and one in that beneath. Their beds with all the furniture were ſhivered to pieces. Two of the young ladies were precipitated into the cellar; one of whom was ſoon diſcovered ſcrambling up the rubbiſh, without any material hurt, having only received ſome ſlight bruizes on the head and arms. The other, who was buried in the rubbiſh, was found in about twenty minutes, after the exertions of a number of neighbours, lying in the midſt of a feather-bed, not at all injured except by the fright. The third was caught in the ſecond floor, acroſs a beam, and fixed down by a heavy piece of wood. She was much bruiſed and hurt, but had no bones broken except one or two of her ribs and recovered after a month's confinement in bed. Their maid, who was juſt retiring from the door after calling them up, when the accident happened, was confined in the narrow ſpace of the door-way, and obliged to remain in that ſituation till the carpenter relieved her from



E. Dayes del.r

Neuman sculp.

VIEW OF CHADDERTON HALL.

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from it by cutting the door from the hinges; for had it been puſhed open, ſhe would have fallen headlong down the breach.

CHADERTON contains a chapel of the eſtabliſhment. In this townſhip is ſituated *Chaderton-hall*, the reſidence of the ancient family of the Hortons, much improved by the preſent owner, Sir Watts Horton. It is rather a modern houſe, built of brick, and nearly ſurrounded by ſhrubberies and pleaſure-grounds, laid out with great taſte. In the front of the houſe is a beautiful park, from ſeveral eminences in which are delightful proſpects. The park contains ſeveral clumps of trees, and much fine timber. A commodious ſhooting-ground is laid out within view of the houſe, for the amuſement of the archers in the neighbourhood, who frequently reſort to this hoſpitable retreat. Sir Watts poſſeſſes ſome valuable paintings. The annexed view is taken from the park, at a ſmall diſtance from the fir-trees which appear in the fore-ground. On the right, near the houſe, is an elevation which was formerly a tumulus, a conſiderable part of which has been lately taken away. Several relics of antiquity were dug up on the occaſion.

Chaderton alſo contains a ſeat of Robert Ratcliffe, Eſq. of Fox-Denton.

CROMPTON has a chapel of the eſtabliſhment.

The increaſe of population in the pariſh of Oldham will appear from the following compariſon of three periods:

Oldham

Years	1714.	1789.	1792.
Oldham (families)	433	2003	2370
Chaderton do.	190	601	628
Royton do.	65	396	432
Crompton do.	218	479	514

MIDDLETON PARISH.

THE pariſh of Middleton is of large extent, and compriſes ſeven or eight hamlets, conſiſting altogether of between 7 or 8000 ſtatute acres. The pariſh church and town of Middleton are pleaſantly ſituated, with the great road leading from York to Mancheſter paſſing by that, and through the town. It is fifty-nine miles from York, five and a half from Rochdale, and ſix and half from Mancheſter. The townſhip of Middleton and much the greater part of the pariſh have long been in the poſſeſſion of the family of the Aſhetons, even previouſly to the 1ſt of Richard III. anno 1483, at which time an extraordinary grant paſſed to Sir Randolph Aſheton, as lord of the manor of Middleton. This property was increaſed, and remained in the poſſeſſion of the Aſhetons until 1766, when the late Sir Raphe Aſheton, Bart. whoſe anceſtors had been created ſo in 1620, dying without male iſſue, the eſtates devolved to his two daughters as co-heireſſes, the eldeſt of whom, before the death of Sir Raphe Aſheton, was married to the preſent lord Suffield of Gunton in Norfolk; and in three or four years afterwards the youngeſt was married to the preſent lord Grey de Wilton, of Heaton, in Lancaſhire. The ancient family ſeat at Middleton, the

the manor and preſentation to the rectory of Middleton, together with that townſhip, and other adjoining property, are now in the poſſeſſion of lord Suffield, and the village of Middleton is rapidly increaſing. Many buildings have been erected, and a grant from the crown was obtained in 1791 for holding a weekly market on a Friday, and three fairs annually, viz. on the firſt Thurſday after the 10th of March, the firſt Thurſday after the 15th of April, and the ſecond Thurſday after the 29th of September, for the ſale of all kinds of cattle, goods, and merchandize, &c.; and for the accommodation of thoſe who reſort thither, lord Suffield has, at a very conſiderable expenſe, erected warehouſes, and an elegant market houſe, as well as ſhambles adjoining. The market, though in its infancy, is well ſupplied with butcher's meat and other proviſions.

The neighbourhood is populous, and nothing will more forcibly point out the increaſing population of this place, than the annexed extract from the pariſh regiſter. Yet we muſt further ſtate, that though little more than twenty years ſince there were ſcarcely more than twenty houſes in the village, there are now between 4 and 500, which contain more than 2000 inhabitants. Buildings are increaſing daily, and we here view with pleaſure the outlines of what one day promiſes to be a great flouriſhing town.

The police of the town is managed by two conſtables choſen annually at the court leet held in and for the manor. The church, a rectory, is dedicated to St. Leonard, and moſt delightfully ſituated on a ſmall hill. It is a venerable old ſtructure, has a peal of ſix ſweet bells, and, together with the plantation adjoining, forms an agreeable object, and heightens much the ſcenery of the adjacent country. The body of

of the church was lately very neatly pewed, and two galleries erected on the north and ſouth, at the expenſe of the pariſh. In this church are depoſited the remains of the ancient family of the Aſhetons, who for many centuries reſided in this pariſh. The Rev. Richard Aſheton, D. D. and warden of Chriſt's college in Mancheſter, is the preſent rector, who reſides in a neat parſonage houſe not far diſtant from the church. The hall, a manſion houſe, formerly the place of reſidence of the Aſheton family, is part ancient and part modern. It is at preſent unoccupied by any perſon except the ſteward; what was once the park lies a ſhort diſtance from the houſe, but is now in a great meaſure incloſed. The free grammar ſchool is pleaſantly ſituated in a valley juſt below the church, upon the banks of the river Irk. It was founded by Dr. Alexander Nowel, then dean of St. Paul's, and principal of Brazen-noſe-college in Oxford, in the year 1572, and endowed with a ſmall ſtipend for two maſters, wherein for ſome years paſt have been educated ſeldom fewer than 150 children. The preſent head maſter is the Rev. James Archer. The river Irk riſes a few miles from, and paſſes cloſe by, the town. The ſoil of the country round this place is in general ſand and a ſtrong clay: the proportion of arable land to paſture is about four acres to twenty. The crop grown principally is oats and potatoes. The ſize of the farms in general is from twenty to thirty acres, which are occupied moſtly by weavers, who alternately engage themſelves in the purſuits of huſbandry, and the more lucrative one of the ſhuttle. The rent of land is various, being from 40*s.* an acre (cuſtomary meaſure) to 10*l.* The inhabitants are well ſupplied with coals at a moderate price and eaſy diſtance. The cotton trade is carried on in this place in all its different proceſſes. A large twiſt manufactory is eſtabliſhed here, and very conſiderable printing and bleaching works.

The

The weaving of ſilk was originally more general than at preſent, but now gives way to the more profitable branches of muſlin and nankeen.

We know of no particular diſeaſe which the inhabitants are ſubject to, and from its good air and water we conſider it as a peculiarly healthy ſituation.

The following extracts from the regiſter will ſhow the progreſſive increaſe of population in this pariſh.

From Nov. 1582 to ditto 1590.

Marriages 46.	Baptiſms.	Males	117	Burials -		134
		Females	94			
			211			

From April 1680 to ditto 1699.

Marriages 108.	Baptiſms	Males	191	Burials	Males	212
		Females	190		Females	126
			381			338

From 1780 to 1784 incluſive, five years.

Baptiſms	Males	465	Burials	Males	246
	Females	456		Females	280
		921			526

From 1785 to 1789 incluſive, five years.

Baptiſms	Males	589	Burials	Males	324
	Females	544		Females	371
		1131			695

Marriages for the above ten years, 490.

Marriages for ten years, from Jan. 1784 to Dec. 1793, 588.

ROCH-

ROCHDALE PARISH.

THE parish of Rochdale is of great extent, measuring from east to west, nine miles; and from north to south, eleven; and, except on the wild moors, is full of inhabitants, the number of which is estimated at 50,000 souls, of which about 10,000 are resident in the town.

The townships in the parish are four: *Hundersfield*, *Spotland*, *Butterworth*, and *Castleton*. The inclosed land (except in the last-named township, which is chiefly of a sandy soil) is mostly of clay and black earth, which under the care of good farmers yields great crops, especially in the meadows. The corn grown is chiefly oats; but the whole quantity of grain raised is so much short of the consumption of the inhabitants, that perhaps nineteen parts in twenty of what is used are brought out of the counties of York, Nottingham, Lincoln, &c. or coast-wise from Wales and the south of England, to the ports of Liverpool and Hull. The rent of good land in this parish is as high as in most parts of England. Meadow land may be averaged at 3*l.* 10*s.* per acre, Lancashire measure, (forty-nine yards to the pole;) but near the town, little or none is let under 7*l.* and some as high as 9*l.* The farms, being generally occupied by manufacturers, are small, seldom exceeding 70*l.* per annum. William lord Byron is lord of the manor, and takes his seat as an English peer under the title of baron Byron of Rochdale. At his court leet, the officers and constables for the civil government of the parish are annually appointed.

The vicarage of Rochdale is superior in value to every other living of that description in the kingdom. In the valuation of livings made in

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the reign of Henry VIII. it is rated as low as 11*l.* 4*s.* 9½*d.* a ſum that little, if at all, exceeds a hundredth part of its preſent produce. Probably no other in England has increaſed in an equal proportion. The emoluments ariſe from lands and houſes. It is in the gift of the archbiſhop of Canterbury, to whom the tithes belong, which are let for a term of years. Nine chapels of eaſe belong to the church of Rochdale, viz. St. Mary's in the town, Littleborough, Milnrow, Todmorden, Whitworth, Friermeer, Lydyate, Saddleworth, and Dobcroſs; moſt of them in the patronage of the vicar, Dr. Thomas Drake.

The town of Rochdale is ſituated in a vale, through the middle of which runs the river Roch, which joins the Irwell below Bury. Beſides the places of worſhip of the eſtabliſhment, it has a meeting-houſe of the preſbyterians, another of the baptiſts, and a very large building lately erected for the methodiſts. There are two charity-ſchools, viz. a free-grammar ſchool founded by archbiſhop Parker, and an Engliſh free-ſchool endowed by Mrs. Hardman, deceaſed. Sixteen Sunday ſchools have been eſtabliſhed ſince 1784. The rapid increaſe of inhabitants will appear from the following extract from the regiſter of the pariſh church alone:

Years.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Mar.	Years.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Mar.
1700	268	177	91	1760	355	255	160
1710	210	212	66	1770	457	403	144
1720	231	206	57	1780	517	392	185
1730	307	247	99	1790	618	644	238
1740	275	228	66	1791	673	504	279
1750	308	261	110	1792	746	646	339

A melancholy reduction appears in the yearly bill for 1794, the articles being, *Chriſt.* 373; *Bur.* 671; *Mar.* 199.

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The markets, on Mondays and Saturdays, are ſupplied chiefly from Mancheſter with meal, fruit, vegetables, and roots of all kinds. The unſold fleſh meat at Mancheſter Saturday's market is ſometimes carried to Rochdale, but the ſubſtantial butchers there get their chief ſupply of ſheep and cattle from the fortnight fairs at Skipton and Wakefield. The bread in common uſe at Rochdale is oat-cakes, of which they make brewis by pouring on them broth and the ſkimming of the pot. This is eaten with black puddings, for the making of which this place is noted. The uſe of oat-cake extends from this town over moſt of the Weſt-Riding of Yorkſhire, inſomuch that a regiment firſt raiſed in theſe diſtricts is called the Haver-cake regiment, and recruiting parties for it commonly beat up with an oat-cake mounted on a ſword's point.

Three fairs are held annually in Rochdale, on May 14th, Whitſun-Tueſday, and November 7th, for cattle, horſes, toys, &c.

There is no priſon in the town, offenders being ſent to the houſe of correction for the hundred in Mancheſter.

A ſmall, but very neat playhouſe has lately been erected under the management of Mr. Stanton.

The pariſh of Rochdale, though not able to boaſt of its fertile corn-fields, is yet rich in the mineral products of ſlate, ſtone, and coal. It is alſo, and has long been, diſtinguiſhed for its trade. A branch of the woollen manufacture is its ſtaple, of which the principal articles are bays, flannels, kerſeys, coatings, and cloths, the greateſt part of which are ſent abroad to Holland, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Ruſſia, and Germany. Part of theſe are exported or ſent to London by the York-

ſhire

ſhire merchants; but conſiderable quantities are ſent directly abroad by the merchants of Rochdale itſelf. The manufactures extend eight or ten miles to the north of the town. The cotton trade has likewiſe ſpread greatly in the neighbourhood; and a very conſiderable hat manufacture is in an increaſing ſtate.

Rochdale hitherto has not had the advantage of a navigation; but a canal is now cutting which will connect it with the navigable river Calder on the one ſide, and with the duke of Bridgewater's canal at Mancheſter on the other; and thus afford a communication with the ports of Liverpool and Hull, and with the whole ſyſtem of internal canal navigation. Upwards of 290,000*l.* has been ſubſcribed to carry this ſcheme into execution, which muſt be of the greateſt benefit to the town, as well in reſpect to its manufactures, as its ſupply of proviſions and merchandize.

The ancient families of note in the pariſh are Chadwick of Healey, Entwiſtle of Foxholes, Buckley of Buckley, Townley of Belfield, Hamer of Hamer, Halliwell of Pike-houſe, Bamford of Shore. There are likewiſe other gentlemen of conſiderable landed property in the pariſh, who are alſo engaged in its commercial concerns.

In the chapelry of Whitworth reſide Meſſrs. John and George Taylor, better known by the name of the *Whitworth Doctors*. The fame of theſe ruſtic artiſts is almoſt equal to that of the celebrated Swiſs doctor, mentioned by Mr. Coxe, and has ſpread not only over their more immediate neighbourhood, but to remote parts of the kingdom, and even the metropolis itſelf. They are chiefly noted for ſetting broken and diſlocated bones, and for the cure of cancerous and other tumours

tumours by cauſtics, properly termed by themſelves *Keen.* Not leſs than 100 perſons annually take lodgings in Whitworth to be under their care, beſides the great reſort of occaſional viſitants. With very reaſonable charges they have realized handſome fortunes, which they enjoy with the general eſteem of their neighbours.

Rochdale and its vicinity may be conſidered as the centre of the genuine *Lancaſhire dialect*; a variety of the Engliſh tongue, which, though uncouth to the ear, and widely differing in words and grammar from cultivated language, is yet poſſeſſed of much force and expreſſion. Its peculiar aptneſs for humorous narrative has been diſplayed in the noted dialogue containing the adventures of a Lancaſhire clown, of which this diſtrict is the ſcene, written by Mr. Collier, under the name of *Tim Bobbin.* The following memoirs of this perſon, obligingly communicated to us by Richard Townley, Eſq. will, we doubt not, agreeably entertain our readers.

ACCOUNT OF TIM BOBBIN,

MR. JOHN COLLIER, alias TIM BOBBIN, was born near Warrington in Lancaſhire.* His father, a clergyman of the eſtabliſhed church, had a ſmall curacy, and for ſeveral years taught a ſchool. With the joint income of thoſe, he managed ſo as to maintain a wife and ſeveral children decently, and alſo to give them a tolerable ſhare of

* Mr. Wardleworth, maſter of the free ſchool at Mottram, aſſures us that he was born at Harriſon's Fold, near this village. He was intimately connected with him from his youth.

uſeful

uſeful learning, until a dreadful calamity befell him, about his 40th year, the *total* loſs of ſight. His former intentions of bringing up his ſon John, of whoſe abilities he had conceived a favourable opinion, to the church, were then over, and he placed him out an apprentice to a Dutch loom-weaver, at which buſineſs he worked more than a year; but ſuch a ſedentary employment not at all according with his volatile ſpirits and eccentric genius, he prevailed upon his maſter to releaſe him from the remainder of his ſervitude. Though then very young, he ſoon commenced itinerant ſchool-maſter; going about the county from one ſmall town to another, to teach reading, writing, and accounts; and generally having a night ſchool (as well as a day one) for the ſake of thoſe whoſe neceſſary employments would not allow their attendance at the uſual ſchool hours. In one of his adjournments to the ſmall, but populous town of Oldham,* he had intimation that Mr. Pearſon, curate and ſchoolmaſter at Milnrow, near Rochdale, wanted an aſſiſtant in the ſchool; to that gentleman he applied, and, after a ſhort examination, was taken in by him to the ſchool, and he divided his ſalary, twenty pounds a year, with him. This Tim conſidered as a material advance in the world, as he ſtill could have a night ſchool, which anſwered very well in that very populous neighbourhood, and was conſidered by him too as a ſtate of independency, a favourite idea *ever afterwards* with his high ſpirit. Mr. Pearſon, not very long afterwards, falling a martyr to the gout, my honoured father gave Mr. Collier the ſchool, which not only made him happy in the thought of being *more* independent, but made him conſider himſelf as a *rich* man. Having now more leiſure hours by dropping his night-ſchool there, though he continued to teach at Oldham and ſome other places during the vacations of Whitſuntide and Chriſtmas, he began to inſtruct himſelf in muſic and drawing, and ſoon was ſuch a proficient in both as to be able to inſtruct

others

others very well in thoſe amuſing arts. The hautboy and *common* flute were his chief inſtruments, and upon the former he very much excelled, the fine modulations that have ſince been acquired or introduced upon that noble inſtrument, being then unknown to all in England. He drew landſcapes in good taſte, underſtanding the rules of perſpective, and attempted ſome heads in profile, with very decent ſucceſs; but it did not hit his humour, for I have heard him ſay, when urged to go on in that line, that drawing heads and faces was as dry and inſipid as leading a life without frolic and fun, unleſs he was allowed to *ſteal in* ſome lears of comic humour, or give it a good daſh of the caricature. Very early in life he diſcovered ſome poetic talents, or rather an eaſy habit for humorous rhyme, by ſeveral anonymous ſquibs he ſent about in ridicule of ſome notoriouſly abſurd, or very eccentric characters; theſe were fathered upon him very juſtly, which created him ſome enemies but more friends. I had once in my poſſeſſion ſome humorous relations, in tolerable rhyme, of his own frolic and fun with perſons he met with, of the like deſcription, in his hours of feſtive humour, which was ſure to take place when releaſed for any time from ſchool duty, and not too much engaged in his lucrative employ of painting. The firſt regular poetic compoſition which he publiſhed was ſtyled the *Blackbird*, containing ſome ſpirited ridicule upon a Lancaſhire juſtice, more renowned for political zeal and ill-timed loyalty, than good ſenſe or diſcretion. In point of eaſy, regular verſification, perhaps this was his beſt ſpecimen, and it alſo exhibited ſome ſtrokes of *true* humour. About this period of his life he fell *ſeriouſly* in love with a handſome young woman, a daughter of Mr. Clay of Flocton, near Huddersfield, and ſoon afterwards took her unto him for wife, or as he uſed to ſtyle her, his crooked rib, who in proper time increaſed his family, and proved to be a virtuous, diſcreet, ſenſible, prudent woman; a good wife, and

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an excellent mother. His family continuing to increaſe nearly every year, the hautboy, flute, and *amuſing* pencil were pretty much diſcarded, and the bruſh and pallet taken up *ſeriouſly*. He was chiefly engaged for ſome time in painting altar pieces for chapels, and ſigns for publicans, which pretty well rewarded the labours of his vacant hours from ſchool attendance; but after ſome time family expenſes increaſing more with his growing family, he deviſed, and luckily hit upon, a more lucrative employment for his leiſure time—this was copying Dame Nature in ſome of her humorous deformities and groteſque ſportings with the human race (eſpecially where the viſage had the greateſt ſhare in thoſe ſportings) into which his pencil contrived to throw ſome pointed features of groteſque humour; ſuch as were beſt adapted to excite riſibility, as long as ſuch ſtrange objects had the advantage of novelty to recommend them. Theſe pieces he worked off with uncommon celerity; a ſingle portrait in the leiſure hours of two days at leaſt, and groups of three or four, in a week: as ſoon as finiſhed, he was wont to carry or ſend them to the firſt-rate inns at Rochdale and Littleborough in the great road to Yorkſhire, with the loweſt prices fixed upon them, the inn-keepers willingly becoming Tim's agents. The droll humour, as well as ſingularity of ſtyle of thoſe pieces, procured him a moſt ready ſale from riders-out, and travellers of other deſcriptions, who had heard of Tim's character. Theſe whimſical productions ſoon began to be in ſuch general repute, that he had large orders for them, eſpecially from merchants in Liverpool, who ſent them upon ſpeculation into the Weſt Indies and America. He uſed at that time to ſay, that if Providence had ever meant him to be a *rich* man, that would have been the proper time, eſpecially if ſhe had kindly beſtowed upon him two pair of hands inſtead of one; but whenever caſh came in readily it was ſure to go merrily: a cheerful glaſs with a joyous companion.

panion was ſo much in uniſon with his own diſpoſition, that a temptation of that kind could never be reſiſted by *poor Tim*; ſo the ſeaſon to grow rich never arrived, but Tim remained *poor* Tim to the end of the chapter.

Collier had been for many years collecting, not only from the ruſtics in his own neighbourhood, but alſo wherever he made excurſions, all the aukward, vulgar, obſolete words and *local* expreſſions which ever occurred to him in converſation amongſt the lower claſſes. A very retentive memory brought them ſafe back for inſertion into his vocabulary or gloſſary, and from thence he formed and executed the plan of his *Lancaſhire dialect*; which he exhibited to public cognizance, in the adventurers of a Lancaſhire Clown, formed from ſome ruſtic ſports and gambols, and alſo ſome whimſical modes of circulating fun, at the expenſe of ſilly, credulous boobies, amongſt the *then cheery* gentlemen of that *peculiar* neighbourhood. This publication, from its novelty, together with ſome *real* ſtrokes of comic humour interlarded into it, took very much with the middle and lower claſſes of the people in the northern counties, (and I believe every where in the ſouthern too, where it had the chance of being noticed) ſo that a new edition was ſoon neceſſary. This was a matter of exultation to Tim, but not of very long duration; for the rapid ſale of that ſecond edition ſoon brought forth two or three *pirated* editions, which made the honeſt, unſuſpecting owner exclaim with great vehemence, "That he did not believe "there was *one* honeſt printer in Lancaſhire;" and afterwards to laſh ſome of the moſt culpable of thoſe inſidious offenders with his keen, ſarcaſtic pen, when engaged in drawing up a preface to a future publication.

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The above-named performances, with his pencil, his bruſh, and his pen, made Tim's name and repute for whimſical archneſs pretty generally known, not only within his native county, but alſo through the adjoining diſtricts in Yorkſhire and Cheſhire; and his repute for a peculiar ſpecies of pleaſantry in his hours of frolic, often induced perſons of much higher rank to ſend for him to an inn (when in the neighbourhood of his reſidence) to have a *perſonal* ſpecimen of his uncommon drollery. Tim was ſeldom backwards in obeying a ſummons to good cheer, and ſeldom, I believe, diſappointed the expectations of his generous hoſts; for he had a wonderful flow of ſpirits, with an inexhauſtible fund of humour, and that too of a very peculiar caſt. Bleſſed with a clear, maſculine underſtanding, and a keen diſcernment into the humours and foibles of others, he knew how to make the beſt advantage of thoſe occaſional interviews, in order to promote *trade*, as he was wont to call it; though his natural temper was very far from being of a mercenary caſt; it was often rather too free and generous, more ſo than prudence, with reſpect to his family, would adviſe, for he would ſooner have had a *lenten* day or two at home, than done a ſhabby or mean thing abroad.

Amongſt other perſons of good fortune who often called upon him at Milnrow, or ſent for him to ſpend a few hours with him at Rochdale, was a Mr. Richard Hill of Kibroid and Halifax in Yorkſhire, then one of the greateſt cloth merchants, and alſo one of the moſt conſiderable manufacturers of baizes and ſhalloons, in the north of England. This gentleman was not only fond of his humorous converſation, but alſo had taken up an opinion that he would be highly uſeful to him as his head clerk in buſineſs, from his being very ready at accounts, and writing a moſt beautiful *ſmall* hand in any kind of type, but eſpecially in imitation

tion of *printed** characters. After ſeveral fruitleſs attempts, he at laſt, by offers of an extravagant ſalary, prevailed upon Mr. Collier to enter into articles of ſervice for three years certain, and to take his family to Kibroid. After ſigning and ſealing, he called upon me to give me notice that he muſt reſign the ſchool, and to thank me for my long continued friendſhip to him. At taking leave, he, like the honeſt Moor,

> Albeit unuſed to the melting mood,
> Dropp'd tears as faſt as the *Arabian* trees
> Their medicinal gum,

and in faltering accents entreated me not to be haſty in filling up the vacancy in that ſchool, where he had lived ſo many years contented and happy; for he had *already* ſome forebodings that he ſhould never reliſh his new ſituation and new occupation. I granted his requeſt, but hoped he would ſoon reconcile himſelf to his new ſituation, as it promiſed to be ſo advantageous both to himſelf and to his family. He replied, it was for the ſake of his wife and children that he was at laſt induced to accept Mr. Hill's *very tempting* offers; no other conſideration whatever could have made him give up Milnrow ſchool and independency.

About two month's afterwards, ſome buſineſs of his maſter's bringing him to Rochdale market, he took that opportunity of returning by Belfield. I inſtantly perceived a wonderful change in his looks; that countenance that uſed ever to be gay, ſerene, or ſmiling, was then covered and diſguiſed with a penſive, ſettled gloom. On aſking him

* The Lord's Prayer in the ſize of a ſplit pea of the *garden* kind; the Apoſtle's Creed in the ſize of a ſixpence, both moſt diſtinct.

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how he liked his new ſituation at Kibroid, he replied, Not at all; then enumerating ſeveral cauſes for diſcontent, concluded with an obſervation, that he never could abide the ways of that country, for they neither keep *red letter* days themſelves, nor allow their ſervants to keep any.—Before he left me, he paſſionately entreated that I would not give away the ſchool, for he ſhould never be happy again till he was ſeated in the crazy old elbow chair, within his *old* ſchool. I granted his requeſt, being leſs anxious to fill up the vacancy, as there were two other free ſchools for the ſame uſes, within the ſame townſhips, which have decent ſalaries annexed to them.

Some weeks afterwards I received a letter from Tim, that he had ſome hopes of getting releaſed from his vaſſalage; for that the father* having found out what very high wages his ſon had agreed to give him, was exceeding angry with him for being ſo extravagant in his allowance to a clerk; that a violent quarrel betwixt them had been the conſequence, and from that circumſtance he meant, at leaſt hoped, to derive ſome advantage in the way of regaining his liberty, which he lingered after and panted for as much as any galley-ſlave upon earth.

Another letter announced, that his maſter perceiving that he was dejected, and had loſt his wonted ſpirits and cheerfulneſs, had hinted to him, that if he diſliked his preſent ſituation, he ſhould be releaſed from his articles at the end of the year; concluding his letter with a *moſt earneſt imploring*, that I would not diſpoſe of the ſchool before that time. By the interpoſition of the old gentleman and ſome others, he got the agreement cancelled a conſiderable time before the year expired; and

* The father and ſon were not in partnerſhip, but carried on diſtinct branches of the woollen trade.

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the evening of the day, when that liberation took place, he hired a large Yorkſhire cart to bring away bag and baggage by ſix the next morning to his own houſe* at Milnrow. When he arrived upon the weſt ſide of Blackſton-edge, he thought himſelf once more a *free man*, and his heart was as light as a feather. The next morning he came up to Belfield to know if he might take poſſeſſion of his ſchool again, which being readily conſented to, tears of gratitude inſtantly ſtreamed down his cheeks, and ſuch a ſuffuſion of joy illumined his countenance as plainly beſpoke the heart being in uniſon with his looks. He then declared his *unalterable* reſolution never more to quit the humble village of Milnrow: that it was not in the power of emperors, kings, or their prime miniſters, to make him any offers, if ſo diſpoſed, that would allure him from his tottering elbow chair, from humble fare with liberty and contentment. A hint was thrown out that he muſt work hard with his pencil, his bruſh, and his pen, to make up the deficiency in income to his family—that he promiſed to do, and was as good as his promiſe, for he uſed double diligence, ſo that the inns at Rochdale and Littleborough were ſoon ornamented, more than ever, with ugly grinning old fellows, and mumbling old women on broom-ſticks, &c. &c.

Tim's laſt literary productions, as I recollect, were remarks upon the Rev. Mr. Whitaker's Hiſtory of Manchester in two parts. The remarks will ſpeak for themſelves. There appeared rather too much ſeaſoning and ſalt in ſome of them, mixed with a degree of acerbity, for which he was rather blamed.

* His father-in-law built a very decent houſe for him and his daughter, upon a ſmall plot of ground near the ſchool on a 999 year leaſe, at the ſmall chief of a ſhilling per ann.

Mr.

Mr. Collier died in poſſeſſion of his mental powers but little impaired, at near eighty years of age, and his eyes not ſo much injured as might have been expected from ſuch a ſevere uſe of them during ſo long a ſpace of time. His wife died a few years before him, but he left three ſons and two daughters behind him. The ſons were all attached to the pallet and bruſh, but in different branches of the mimetic art.

RATCLIFFE PARISH.

THE pariſh of Ratcliffe conſiſts only of the townſhip of that name, and takes in a circuit of between ſix and ſeven meaſured miles. The number of houſes contained in it is 399; of families, 409; and of inhabitants, 2032. The houſes for the moſt part are of an inferior ſort, and the inhabitants are chiefly weavers, crofters, or employed in the coal works which abound in this country. Thoſe who live by farming in this pariſh are very few, and the lands are much divided. Nearly the whole is the property of the lord Grey de Wilton, who is likewiſe the patron of the rectory.

Year.	Bapts.	Burials.	Marr.	Year.	Bapts.	Burials.	Marr.
1700	12	23	4	1770	83	73	18
1710	32	22	9	1780	60	37	10
1720	36	14	9	1790	92	72	15
1730	25	44	5	1791	118	82	14
1740	28	38	10	1792	123	95	17
1750	61	53	15	1793	120	57	15
1760	75	24	16				

BOLTON.

BOLTON-LE-MOORS, ſo called to diſtinguiſh it from a town of the ſame name in the Weſt-Riding of Yorkſhire, has been known as the ſeat of a manufacture belonging to the ſyſtem of the Mancheſter trade, as far back as that trade itſelf can be traced. Leland, in his Itinerary, notices the cottons (then a ſpecies of woollen manufacture) and coarſe yarn which its markets afforded, and ſays that many villages in the moors around were employed in making thoſe cotrons. At that period, too, the coal pits in its neighbourhood were wrought, which, with cannel-and turf, afforded the fuel of the diſtrict. The early manufacture of fuſtians at Bolton has been mentioned in our account of the trade of Mancheſter, and it has continued to be celebrated for theſe and a variety of kindred articles to the preſent day. The barrenneſs of its ſituation has probably aided its progreſs in wealth and population by operating as a ſtimulus to the induſtry and ingenuity of the people. It is ſaid that the manufactures originated from proteſtant refugees from Flanders; but this could not have been the caſe with thoſe eſtabliſhed before Leland's time, who lived in the reign of Henry VIII. Poſſibly, foreigners might have been the introducers of the *real cotton* branches, which ſucceeded to the coarſe woollens ſo called.

In the civil wars of Charles the Firſt's time, Bolton underwent a ſtorm in 1644 from prince Rupert, in which many perſons were killed: and in 1652, James earl of Derby, who had been taken in the battle of Worceſter, was beheaded at Bolton, in retaliation, it was ſaid, for the ſeverities inflicted there under his command.

Bolton

Bolton has no other magiſtrates than conſtables. It has a free-ſchool, of which Ainſworth, author of the Latin Dictionary, was once a maſter. There are two principal fairs in the year, one in winter and the other in ſummer. The market is on Monday. It is ſupplied with oat-meal from both Preſton and Mancheſter, beſides from oats grown in the neighbourhood. Jannock or oat bread was formerly the only kind uſed at Bolton, and was proverbially as noted as Cheſhire cheeſe. The cattle killed by the butchers are brought chiefly from Yorkſhire, and moſtly conſiſt of Scotch cows, called cuſhes, fattened in Craven. So greatly is the conſumption of fleſh meat increaſed, that, whereas in the memory of ſome perſons now living, not more than one cow uſed to be killed weekly in Bolton, or if two, the unſold beef uſed to be ſent to Bury market,—before the beginning of the preſent war, a tanner in Anderton bought weekly thirty-five cow hides of the Bolton butchers, and yet was ſuppoſed not to take half the whole produce. The fruit and vegetables ſold here come principally from the Mancheſter markets, or from the vicinity of Warrington, its own neighbourhood not being favourable to theſe productions.

In 1773 an enumeration was made of the inhabitants of the manor of Bolton, which gave the following reſults:

In the town of Bolton, - - -	houſes,	946	inhabitants,	4568
In Little Bolton and the manor -	ditto -	232	ditto - -	771
	Total	1178		5339

So rapid was the increaſe after this period, that in 1789 an enumeration of the inhabitants of the townſhip of Bolton gave the amount of

of 11,739 perſons; and the augmentation viſibly went forwards till the beginning of the preſent war. Even at this time, notwithſtanding the great numbers who have enliſted, houſes for the working claſs are not procured without difficulty; and laſt ſummer many houſes were built in the ſkirts of the town, which are now occupied. Upwards of a thouſand children attend the Sunday ſchools of the methodiſts, and are inſtructed in their chapel by teachers without pay.

This original ſeat of the cotton trade is ſtill the centre of the manufacture of ornamental or fancy goods. It is only by emigrants from this place that any branches of this trade have been tranſplanted elſewhere; but the moſt ingenious part of the workmanſhip ſtill remains rooted as it were to the ſoil, and flouriſhes even amidſt preſent diſcouragements ſo far, that the poor ſuffer leſs here than in any of the ſurrounding diſtricts. The muſlin trade is that which ſeems to anſwer beſt at preſent. Since the oppoſition of the populace to the uſe of machines for ſhortening labour has been quelled by convincing them of their utility, ſpinning factories have been erected throughout all the ſurrounding country, eſpecially where water is plentiful. The ſtreams near Bolton are too near their ſources to furniſh the water that large works require; there are few, therefore, in its neighbourhood of the larger kind, though ſeveral of the ſmaller. Much water is alſo occupied by the bleachers, who have extenſive croſts here. The new and more expeditious mode of bleaching by the dephlogiſticated marine acid is now generally known, but it is not often uſed unleſs when there is a very briſk demand for a particular ſort of goods; for if great care be not taken, it is often injurious to the pieces, and takes out the marks. The want of water in this diſtrict is made up by the ingenious invention of the machines called mules, or *hall-in-the-wood* wheels, from

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an old hall in the neighbourhood ſeated in a moſt romantic ſituation, in a part of which the inventor reſided. This machine admits of a great number of ſpindles; the greateſt yet known is 304. Had the inventor fought a patent, he might probably have acquired a large fortune; but ſome gentlemen in Mancheſter purchaſed the invention for 100*l.* and made it public.

The Bolton manufacturers almoſt univerſally repair to Mancheſter to ſell their goods on the Tueſday, ſome few on the Thurſday, and a great number on the Saturday, of every week. Mancheſter on thoſe days is crowded with traders and makers of cotton goods from the country round, on the Tueſdays particularly. The goods are not expoſed in a public hall as the Yorkſhire cloths are; their vaſt quantity and variety would not admit of ſuch a mode. The expenſes of importing the raw materials, and the extent of the trade, have enabled men of ſome property to ſtep in between the weaver and merchant, and to obtain a profit upon the materials and goods in every ſtage of their progreſs.

The fuſtian tax impoſed about ten years ago was, of courſe, a matter of very near concern to the manufacturers of this place; and upon its repeal, obtained by the determined oppoſition of the people, and the able and active exertions of the gentlemen delegated from Mancheſter for the purpoſe, a ſilver cup was preſented from Bolton to Mr. Thomas Walker and Mr. Richardſon, with the following inſcription, drawn up by Dorning Raſbotham, Eſq.:—"To ————, this cup is moſt "reſpectfully preſented by the inhabitants of the town and neighbour-"hood of Bolton in the Moors, the original ſeat of the fuſtian manu-"facture in this kingdom, as a token of their gratitude for his lauda-"ble and unwearied exertions, in conjunction with his aſſociates, in "ſoliciting,

" ſoliciting, and in the year 1785, in procuring a repeal of an odious " and oppreſſive tax upon ſtuffs made of cotton and linen mixed, or " wholly of cotton wool."

Bolton, as we have already noticed, is upon the eve of obtaining the benefit of a canal connecting it with Mancheſter, and with all the circuit of inland water communication. It will run along the edge of the hills on the banks of the Irwell and its tributary ſtreams, through a moſt beautiful and romantic country. Thrice it is carried over theſe ſtreams by aqueducts much grander than that at Barton-bridge. One is at Clifton; another at Preſtolee; and a third, at leaſt twenty yards high, and conſiſting of three arches, within two miles of Bolton. Coals, which alone can repay the expenſe of ſuch an undertaking, are met with all round the town. Steam engines are much uſed, not only for draining the mines, but on a ſmaller ſcale, for drawing up the coals. But few of them are on the plan of Meſſrs. Bolton and Watt.

The neighbourhood of Bolton has been diſtinguiſhed for producing men of great talents in mechanical invention, who have generally been wholly uneducated, and indebted only to native powers and the habit of obſervation. The moſt celebrated of theſe was Sir Richard Arkwright, of whom falſe pride and prejudice alone can think it derogatory to ſay, that he paſſed a great part of his life in the humble ſtation of a barber in the town of Bolton. His mind was ſo ardently engaged in the improvements of the mechaniſm uſed in the manufactures, that he could ſcarcely keep himſelf above want by the exerciſe of his proper profeſſion; but his perſeverance and ingenuity were at length rewarded with a meaſure of opulence which nothing but the full tide of proſperity

rity in a commercial nation could beſtow. His ſhare of merit in invention has already been ſtated in the account of the trade of Mancheſter.

At *Smithels* an old hall to the north of Bolton, anciently belonging to the Fauconberg family, is ſtill remaining a large wainſcotted room, the pannels of which are adorned with upwards of fifty heads cut in the wood, which are ſuppoſed to repreſent different perſons of the family. The hall has been much viſited, on a ſuperſtitious account, by zealous proteſtants, in order to view the ſuppoſed impreſſion of a foot made in the ſtone floor by one Marſh, a martyr, in the reign of queen Mary.

Rivington, in the pariſh of Bolton, is diſtinguiſhed by a lofty hill crowned by a building called *Rivington Pike*, a conſpicuous object to the country round. In this townſhip ſome promiſing veins of lead and calamine were diſcovered many years ſince in the eſtate of Sir F. Standiſh, which were worked, and lead enough got to pay the expence. They have ſince been purſued by miners out of Derbyſhire, but not much more has been done than to clear the old works of water. The veins follow the dip of a great rock into the eſtate of James Hammerton, Eſq.

BURY.

BURY is pleaſantly ſituated about nine miles north of Mancheſter, with the Irwell running cloſe on its weſt ſide, and the Roch about a mile's diſtance on the eaſt, both which rivers unite about two miles below. In Leland's tour Bury is mentioned as a poor market, having a ruin of a caſtle by the pariſh church, which, with the town, belonged formerly to the Pilkingtons, but then to the earl of Derby. Yarn was made about the town. At the preſent day, Bury may be conſidered

as

as a conſiderable appendage to the cotton and woollen trades. It is a market-town of tolerable ſize, the market day on Thurſday. The buildings are moſtly of brick, and generally good. The church, which has been lately rebuilt, is very handſome. There are likewiſe a chapel of the eſtabliſhment, and places of worſhip for the preſbyterians, independents, and methodiſts. There is a very handſome free-ſchool well endowed, with two maſters, who have each a good houſe beſides their ſalaries; and alſo a charity ſchool for boys and girls. One half of the town is leaſehold under the earl of Derby; the other half glebe, belonging to the rectory. The living, in the gift of the earl of Derby, is a very valuable one, and has of late years been much improved, owing to an act of parliament paſſed in 1764, empowering the rector for the time being to grant building leaſes for 99 years, renewable at any period in the interim as the rector and tenant can agree. By an account taken in 1773, the number of houſes in Bury was 463; of families, 464; and of inhabitants, 2090. Theſe numbers are ſuppoſed ſince that time to have doubled, from the natural increaſe, and the influx of new people. The following extract of the regiſter of the pariſh church will ſhow the progreſs of population during the laſt ten years.

	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.
From July 1784 to ditto 1785	167	411	257
——— 1785 to ditto 1786	166	425	291
——— 1786 to ditto 1787	135	450	222
——— 1787 to ditto 1788	137	457	373
——— 1788 to ditto 1789	159	468	266
——— 1789 to ditto 1790	160	456	357
——— 1790 to ditto 1791	185	481	257
——— 1791 to ditto 1792	182	477	239
——— 1792 to ditto 1793	156	530	255
——— 1793 to ditto 1794	196	481	272

The

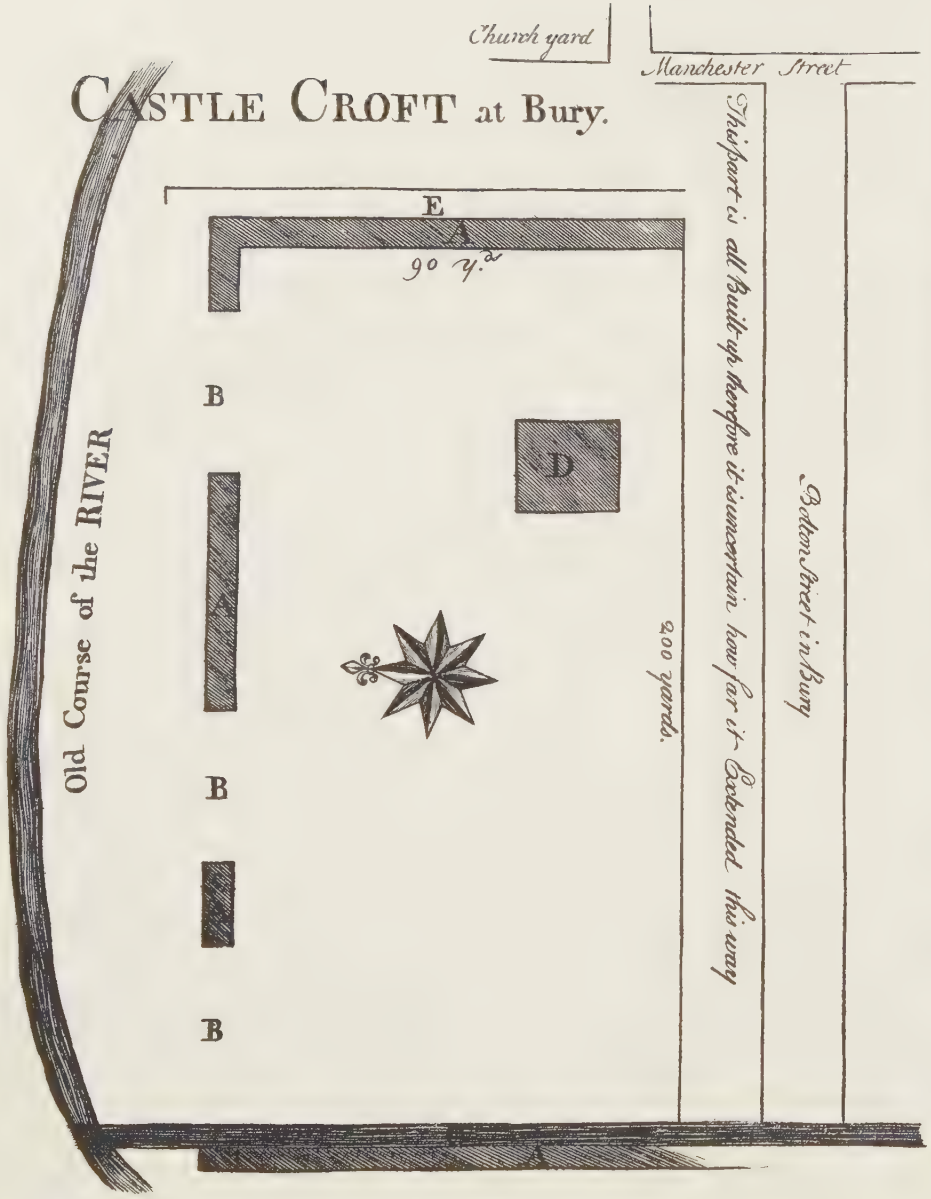
The pariſh is large, and divided into the following townſhips: Tottington Higher and Lower End, Bury, Walmerſley, Heap, and Elton. The four laſt are commonly called the lordſhip of Bury, and are moſtly leaſehold, under the earl of Derby. The Tottingtons compoſe what is called the royal manor of Tottington. There are three chapels of eaſe in the pariſh, Holcombe, Edenfield, and Heywood.

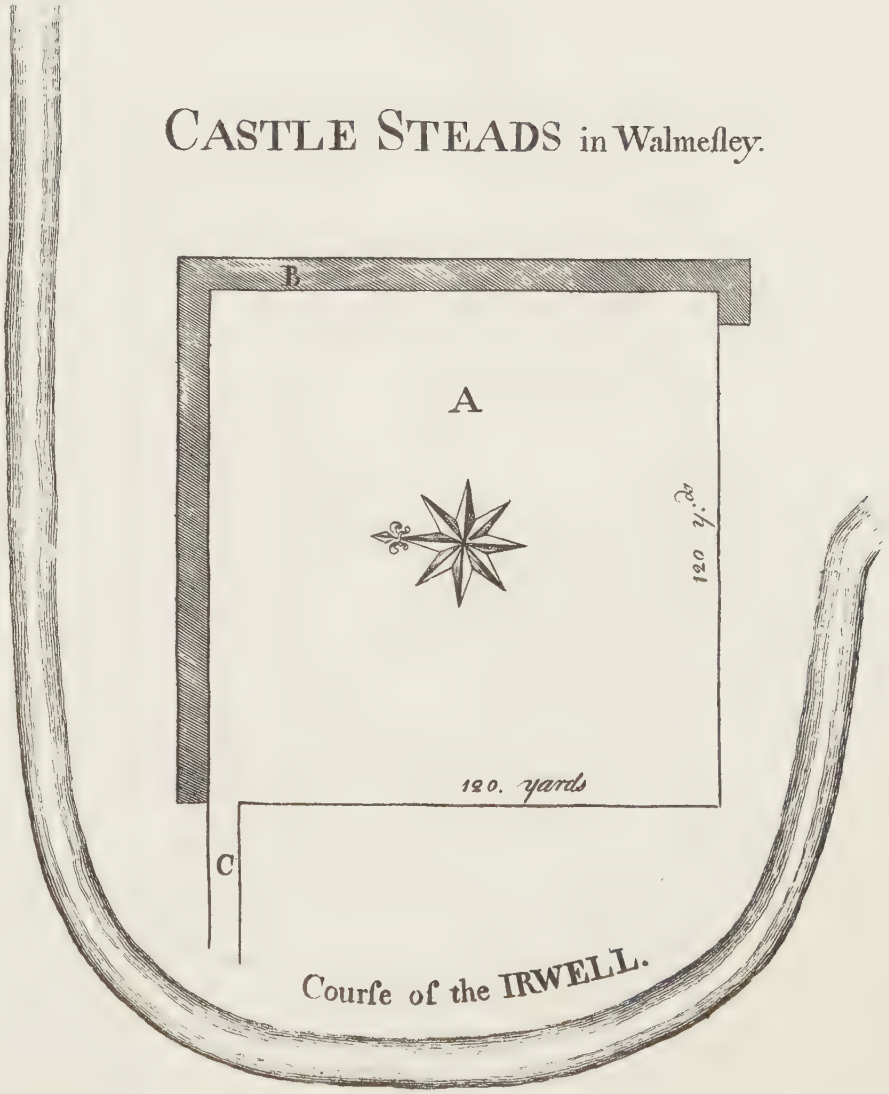
The cotton manufacture, originally brought from Bolton, is here carried on very extenſively in moſt of its branches. A great number of factories are erected upon the rivers and upon many brooks within the pariſh, for carding and ſpinning both cotton and ſheep's wool, alſo for fulling woollen cloth. The inventions and improvements here in different branches are aſtoniſhing. One of the moſt remarkable is a machine made by Mr. Robert Kay, ſon to the late Mr. John Kay, inventor of the wheel or flying ſhuttle, for making ſeveral cards at once to card cotton or wool. The engine ſtraightens wire out of the ring, cuts it in lengths, ſtaples it, crooks it into teeth, pricks the holes in the leather, puts the teeth in, row after row, till the cards are finiſhed; all which it does at one operation of the machine, in an eaſy and expeditious manner, by a perſon turning a ſhaft, and touching neither the wire nor leather.

Formerly there lived in this town Mr. Thomas Whitehead, who was at the ſame time clerk and apparitor, and alſo an ingenious artiſt. He was noted for being the firſt maker of a very ſerviceable metal button, much eſteemed by country people, and ſtill ſold by the name of Clerk-of-Bury buttons.

The

The town and neighbourhood of Bury have been highly benefited by the eſtabliſhment of the very capital manufacturing and printing works belonging to the Company, of which that very reſpectable gentleman, Robert Peel, Eſq. member of parliament for Tamworth, is the head. The principal of theſe works are ſituated on the ſide of the Irwell, from which they have large reſervoirs of water. There is likewiſe a ſeparate reſervoir ſupplied by a ſpring of fine clear water, which is uſed for the waſhing of goods when the river is muddied by floods. The articles here made and printed are chiefly the fineſt kinds of the cotton manufactory, and they are in high requeſt both at Mancheſter and London. The printing is performed in the moſt improved methods, both by wooden blocks and copper rollers, and the execution and colours are ſome of the very beſt of the Lancaſhire fabric. The premiſes occupy a large portion of ground, and cottages have been built for the accommodation of the workmen, which form ſtreets, and give the appearance of a village. Ingenious artiſts are employed in drawing patterns, and cutting and engraving them on wood and copper, and many women and children in mixing and pencilling the colours, &c. The Company has ſeveral other extenſive works in the neighbourhood, as well on the Irwell as on the Roch. Some of theſe are confined to the carding, ſlubbing, and ſpinning of cotton; others to waſhing the cottons with water wheels, which go round with great velocity, but can be ſtopped in an inſtant for taking out and putting in the goods. Boiling and bleaching the goods are performed at other works. In ſhort, the extenſiveneſs of the whole concern is ſuch as to find conſtant employ for moſt of the inhabitants of Bury and its neighbourhood, of both ſexes and all ages, and notwithſtanding their great number, they have never wanted work in the moſt unfavourable times. The peculiar healthineſs of the people employed may be imputed partly to the judicious and humane regulations





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tions put in practice by Mr. Peel, and partly to the ſalubrity of the air and climate. At a ſhort diſtance from Bury and the works is a large well-built houſe, called Chamber-hall, in which Mr. Peel himſelf reſides, and in an adjoining meadow is a cottage or nurſery for his young family. The whole is fitted up in a ſtyle of neatneſs and elegance, and ſurrounded with ornamental grounds and riſing plantations.

The canal from Bury to Mancheſter, which will come within the breadth of the Irwell from Mr. Peel's works, will greatly facilitate the conveyance of goods and raw materials.

Tradition preſerves the memory of two caſtles in and near Bury. One is at a field called *Caſtle Croft* cloſe by the town of Bury, on its weſt ſide, about 80 yards from the croſs. There are no remains of ancient buildings here, but in the adjacent gardens have often been dug up parts of the foundation walls. It was a good ſite for a fortreſs; and the old courſe of the river ſeems to have winded in the valley which ſkirts it below, where the printing and bleaching grounds of Meſſrs. Peel and Co. are ſituated. The other, viz. *Caſtle Steads* in Walmeſley, placed in a bend of the Irwell, is ſaid to have been only an entrenchment of the Parliament's army, when Bury was beſieged, and its caſtle battered by cannon planted at the head of a wood in Walmeſley. Nothing remains of theſe works but the name of the cloſe, the tenant occupying it having levelled the trenches. Not far from thence, at a place called *Caſtle-hill*, there ſeems to have been in the feudal times a lordſhip of the royalty tenure, with power of impriſonment and execution of criminals. A hill juſt by is ſtill called *Gallows-hill*.

The turnpike road from Bury northwards to Haſlingden is an excellent one, being made with a coarſe ſtone between flag and free ſtone,

of

of which material the houſes and many of the fences of the country are conſtructed The face of the country is greatly diverſified with hills and vallies, in which many rivulets wind, of great ſervice in working the numerous machines uſed in the thriving manufactures of theſe parts.

BLACKBURN HUNDRED.

BLACKBURN PARISH.

THE pariſh of Blackburn is one of the two pariſhes which comprehend almoſt the whole hundred of that name. This entire territory was beſtowed by the Conqueror on Ilbert de Laci, one of his potent followers. He and his deſcendants parcelled it out again to their dependents, and moſt of the eſtates in the hundred derive their titles from theſe grants.

The *town of Blackburn* is ſeated in a bottom ſurrounded with hills. It has long been known as a manufacturing place, but within the memory of man the population was very inconſiderable to what it has lately been. It was formerly the centre of the fabrics ſent to London for printing, called *Blackburn greys*, which were plains of linen warp ſhot with cotton. Since ſo much of the printing has been done near Mancheſter, the Blackburn manufacturers have gone more into the making of calicoes. The fields around the town are whitened with the materials lying to bleach. The town itſelf conſiſts of ſeveral ſtreets, irregularly laid out, but intermixed with good houſes, the conſequences of commercial wealth. Beſides the pariſh church, there is a newly-erected

erected chapel of the eſtabliſhment, and five places of worſhip for different perſuaſions of diſſenters. There is a free-ſchool in the town founded by queen Elizabeth, and a very good poor-houſe, with land appropriated to the uſe of the poor, where cattle may be paſtured.

Blackburn has a market on Mondays, but its chief ſupply of proviſions is from Preſton, particularly the articles of butcher's meat and ſhelled groats. The latter are bought by the town's people about Michaelmas, ground to meal, and ſtowed in arks, where they are trodden down hard while new and warm, to ſerve for the year's bread, which is chiefly oat cakes. It has an annual fair on May-day, and a fortnight fair for cattle, chiefly milch kine.

The church of Blackburn before the reformation belonged to the Abbey of Whalley. The archbiſhop of Canterbury is now rector, and the living is ſerved by a vicar, who has ſeven chapelries in his gift, but which are independent of him in point of revenue. Half of the ſite of the town belongs to the rector, who lets it on leaſes for twenty-one years. The tythes of the rectory are let to farmers, who compound by a modus, and rarely take in kind. A mortuary is due throughout the pariſh (which compriſes twenty-four townſhips) for every houſe-keeper dying worth £.40 perſonalty free of debts. The value of land and price of proviſions are increaſed here within the laſt fifty years in as great proportion as in moſt parts of the kingdom.

To the eaſt of Blackburn is Fore-gate, where are ſome good new buildings. The new road to Haſlingden, Bury, and Mancheſter, paſſes this way. A little to the ſouth is a capital brewery, cloſe by which the new canal from Leeds to Liverpool takes its courſe. A mile on

the

the Preſton road is a large printing ground, and a factory for ſpinning cotton twiſt. On the ſouth of the town lies Hoadley-hall, which, with its land, belongs to the rectory.

Extract from the pariſh regiſter of Blackburn.

	Chriſt.	Bur.	Marr.
From Dec. 21, 1779 to ditto 1780	418	255	159
——— 1780 to ditto 1781	431	484	180
——— 1781 to ditto 1782	450	298	163
——— 1782 to ditto 1783	353	232	168
——— 1783 to ditto 1784	432	296	197
——— 1784 to ditto 1785	502	432	210
——— 1785 to ditto 1786	475	315	232
——— 1786 to ditto 1787	541	287	186
——— 1787 to ditto 1788	506	327	140
——— 1788 to ditto 1789	431	388	176
——— 1789 to ditto 1790	582	341	218
——— 1790 to ditto 1791	539	361	240
——— 1791 to ditto 1792	513	400	222
——— 1792 to ditto 1793	495	400	225
——— 1793 to ditto 1794	389	393	185

The land about Blackburn is in general barren, and much of it ſandy. Coal is found in plenty in the ſouthern end of the pariſh, and in ſeveral parts much ſtone ſlate is got, which is uſed for covering the houſes. In one of the hills there is a mine of alum ſtone, which Fuller ſays was worked in his time, but had long been neglected on account of the increaſing expenſe of removing the ſuper-incumbent ſtrata. When Sir G. Colebrook's project of monopolizing alum took place, he purchaſed and

and worked theſe mines; but ſince its failure they have again fallen into neglect.

At *Darwen*, four miles ſouth of Blackburn, there are plenty of coals. This was formerly a ſmall village, but is now a populous diſtrict, manufacturing a large quantity of cotton goods. It contains two printing works, and there are a proportional number of mechanics and ſhopkeepers. Twenty years ſince, a return was made to Dr. Percival of a diſſenting congregation here, conſiſting of 1850 individuals, among whom the annual proportion of births was more than double that of deaths. Darwen is in a bleak and elevated ſituation, ſurrounded with moors, and little cultivated.

WHALLEY PARISH.

THIS large pariſh, compriſing a great portion of Blackburn hundred, contains fifteen chapelries. *Whalley* itſelf is only a village. The pariſh church is a vicarage in the gift of the archbiſhop of Canterbury. In the church-yard are three remarkable croſſes. Two are carved in a form ſimilar to that of Maen y Cwynfan, in Flintſhire; the other is of an extremely eccentric ſhape. Dugdale ſuppoſes theſe to be ſome of thoſe erections in the time of Auguſtine the monk, which were called croſſes of the bleſſed Auguſtine. There is a ſmall ſchool at Whalley founded by Edward VI. This ſchool and thoſe of Middleton and Burnley have thirteen ſcholarſhips in Brazen-noſe College in Oxford.

Whalley-

Whalley-abbey, a place formerly of great note and conſequence in theſe parts, is ſeated on the bank of the river Calder, beneath the ſhade of a lofty brow clothed with trees impending over the oppoſite ſide. The boundaries of this religious houſe were very large. Two ſquare towers yet remain with pointed gateways. Beneath are the ancient entrances to the place. One is finely vaulted, and the arch ſecured with ſtone ribs curiouſly interſecting each other. There are ſtill left part of the conventual church, and ſome of the old dwelling part of the abbey. On a bow window are cut in ſtone ſeveral coats of arms of founders and benefactors, as the Lacies, the Stanlies, &c. There are the ruins of a vaſt length of room, perhaps the refectory, with windows on each ſide, ſome rounded, others pointed. Above this had been the lodging rooms. A great court lies to the weſt of theſe, and on one ſide is a great pile with two rows of rounded windows with Gothic ſtone work within.

The name of this place in the Saxon language was *Valeleg*. Auguſtine, the firſt miſſionary of Chriſtianity to this iſland, founded a church in theſe parts, which was long parochial to the wide tract of Blackburnſhire and all Bolland. As converts increaſed, more places of worſhip were erected. Theſe had no particular patrons, but the lords of the ſoil in which they lay, appointed their relations or friends to the cure, who were called rectors, and were married men and perſons of property. The country was at that time very thinly peopled; the biſhops, therefore, left the government of theſe churches to the owners with the powers of deans, which ſtyle they bore among the people, and the office was hereditary. In the reign of Will. Rufus, the laſt dean being prohibited marriage by a council, conveyed the preſentation of Whalley and its chapels to his relation John, conſtable of Cheſter, and lord

lord of Blackburn. Henry Lacy, earl of Lincoln, a ſucceſſor of his, beſtowed this church on the white monks of Stanlaw in Wirral, with the proviſo, that if the number of monks ſhould be augmented from forty to ſixty, they ſhould remove to Whalley. This was effected in 1296, when the new convent was built by the munificence of the earl, who tranſlated to it the bones of his anceſtors interred at Stanlaw. This abbey flouriſhed till the year 1536; when, encouraged by Aſke's rebellion, or the pilgrimage of grace, the abbots and monks of ſeveral convents who before had either ſurrendered their houſes, or been driven out, repoſſeſſed themſelves, and reſumed their functions. Among them were the religious of this houſe, as well as others in the north. The earl of Shrewſbury, however, who commanded againſt the rebels, had them taken out, and martial law executed upon them. John Paſlew, the 25th abbot, and one of his monks, were hanged at Lancaſter. At the diſſolution, the place was granted by Edward VI. to Richard Aſhton of Darcy-Lever, a branch of the family of Middleton, together with great part of the demeſne; the reſt to John Braddyl, which his deſcendants ſtill poſſeſs. Aſhton made the abbey his reſidence. Conſiderable buildings were added, which ſtill ſubſiſt, though in a ruinous ſtate, a good ſpecimen of ancient ſplendour. The gallery is a wainſcotted room 150 feet long, and coarſely painted. The houſe and manor continued the property of the Aſhtons till the preſent century, when it was transferred by marriage to the Curzons, to a branch of which family it now belongs.

HASLINGDEN.

HASLINGDEN.

THIS is a ſmall market town upon the turnpike road leading from Bury to Blackburn. The church ſtands upon the brow of a hill, which was alſo the ſituation of the old part of the town; but the buildings have now extended into the valley beneath. The river Swinnel ſkirts the weſtern part of the town, and winds away through a populous country. Haſlingden has been greatly improved within the laſt twenty years, chiefly from the increaſe of the woollen manufacture; though much of the cotton trade has likewiſe been introduced within a few years, particularly the branch of making twiſt for warps, for which purpoſe alone ſeveral factories have been erected in its neighbourhood.

The church is under the vicar of Whalley, who appoints a curate. It has been rebuilt about twenty years ſince, but the old ſteeple is left ſtanding. The town is governed by a conſtable and ſix churchwardens, who have under their care ſix diviſions, or poſts, as they are here termed. Two of theſe diviſions, however, have a chapel of eaſe of their own, ſubordinate to Haſlingden, called *Goodſhaw chapel*, ſituated about two miles on the Burnley road, and near it is a quaker's meeting-houſe, at a place called Crawſhaw Booth.

The town and hamlets of Haſlingden are reckoned now to contain about 3000 inhabitants, which is triple the number they contained forty years ſince. The people were at that time chiefly employed by monied men at Rochdale; but now the trade is ſupported by capitals acquired

on

on the ſpot by the induſtry and enterpriſing ſpirit of the manufacturers, who have erected inns for the entertainment of travellers, ſhops, and handſome houſes for their own reſidence. A ſquare is lately planned here, and ſome capital houſes are already built in it. A turnpike road from Halifax to Blackburn runs through Haſlingden, which is kept in excellent condition, from the goodneſs of the materials every where at hand. Some bulky goods, as oil for the woollen manufactory, treacle, &c. are brought from London by the Selby navigation into Yorkſhire, and thence hither by land carriage; but the newly-projected canals will afford the benefit of water carriage directly to this neighbourhood. The following is an extract from the church regiſter for the laſt twenty years.

Year.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Marr.	Year.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Marr.
1775	157	77	52	1785	210	124	72
1776	178	129	48	1786	206	113	72
1777	204	96	52	1787	237	119	68
1778	196	83	56	1788	201	133	56
1779	173	100	48	1789	200	151	64
1780	194	111	52	1790	228	146	68
1781	184	145	52	1791	213	125	52
1782	196	106	52	1792	251	147	56
1783	176	97	58	1793	210	169	72
1784	191	102	72	1794	165	171	52

A number of mills for carding cotton and ſheep's-wool, and ſpinning them into cotton twiſt and woollen yarn for the flannels made here, are erected upon the Swinnel. There is alſo a corn-mill on the river, formerly belonging to the Holden family, now extinct, whoſe hall, an ancient

ancient manſion, ſtands about a mile from Haſlingden. Near it is Cold-hutch-bank, under a hill from which the fineſt flags and ſlate are quarried out. On the other ſide ſtands Todd-hall, an old manſion. Hud-hey on the Blackburn road is another ancient reſidence, near which ſtands Carter-place, belonging to Mr. Taylor, a handſome houſe built of the excellent ſtone abounding in this country. In the Grane poſt or diſtrict are many good houſes, ſome of them ancient.

About five miles from Haſlingden on the Whalley road is the ancient manſion of *Dungnow*, belonging to lord Petre, where a prieſt of the Roman Catholic religion is ſtill kept. It is ſituated in a noble park, and ſome antiquities worth notice yet exiſt in it. At this houſe was formerly entertained an ideot, called *Nick of Dungnow*, of whoſe ſimplicity, united with a natural ſhrewdneſs, many tales are ſtill current in popular tradition.

At *Church-bank* near *Church-kirk*, Mr. Jonathan Peel has erected very extenſive buildings, where he carries on the printing buſineſs in great perfection. There are other large printing works at a place called Oakenſhaw, in which a number of hands are employed. In its neighbourhood is an excellent coal-pit.

BURNLEY.

BURNLEY has a market on Mondays, chiefly for corn. Its trade was formerly only in woollen or worſted goods, but the cotton manufactures

nufactures are now introduced in it. Some fulling mills for woollens are ſtill kept up, and there are many cotton machines and printing works about the town. The church of Burnley is under Whalley, and though only a curacy, is reckoned one of the beſt livings in theſe parts. The intended courſe of the Leeds and Liverpool canal will nearly ſurround the town. Several good families reſide in the country round, and ſtone and ſlate are plentiful, and ſome lead mines have been diſcovered. Roman coins have been found at this town.

COLNE.

COLNE has a church under Whalley, and a baptiſt and methodiſt meeting, with a free-ſchool. It is a ſmall market-town, the market on Wedneſdays. The trade formerly conſiſted in woollen and worſted goods, particularly ſhalloons, calamancoes, and tammies; but the cotton trade is of late introduced, the articles conſiſting chiefly of calicoes and dimities. There is an elegant cloth-hall, or piece-hall, as it is here called, where goods are ſold during the ringing of a bell, fines being levied on ſales after the ſtated time. Much money is turned in this town, in proportion to its ſize, it being ſituated on the edge of the diſtrict of Craven, where cattle for ſlaughter are procured for a large ſurrounding country. Colne ſtands only a mile from the courſe of the Leeds canal, at a part where a ſubterraneous tunnel is to be carried at vaſt expenſe through a quickſand. The country about Colne is hilly, and the town is ſeated upon coal, with ſtone beneath, and ſlate for building. Lime is plentiful four miles on the Skipton road. Roman coins

coins have been found at Colne, but there are no other marks of its being a Roman ſtation.

CLITHEROE.

THIS is a ſmall borough town, ſeated on an inſulated eminence, with a high limeſtone rock at one end, crowned by its little caſtle, whoſe remains are a ſquare tower ſurrounded at a diſtance by a ſtrong wall. This caſtle was poſſeſſed by the royaliſts in the latter end of the civil wars, and was ordered to be diſmantled by the Parliament in 1649. The town had been entirely moated round except on the inacceſſible parts. The caſtle is of great antiquity, being mentioned in a grant of William Rufus. The lordſhip or honour of Clitheroe, anciently belonging to the Lacy family, having been part of the duchy of Lancaſter, became the property of the crown, till on the Reſtoration it was beſtowed on Monk, duke of Albemarle, from whom it came to its preſent poſſeſſors, the dukes of Montague. The church is a chapelry belonging to the pariſh of Whalley.

Clitheroe had an ample charter from the firſt Henry de Lacy, who granted its townſmen the ſame privileges with the citizens of Cheſter. This was confirmed by another of Edward I. The town is governed by two bailiffs, who jointly have the power of one juſtice of the peace. They are the returning officers of the borough, which ſends two members to parliament. It is not incorporated, but the right of voting is in the reſident owners of the houſes, or, according to the reſolution of

of the Houſe of Commons in 1661, in ſuch freeholders only who have eſtates for life or in fee. It did not ſend members till the firſt of Elizabeth. The preſent number of voters is 42. Thomas Liſter, Eſq. and Lord Curzon, are joint proprietors of the borough, and by compromiſe now ſend one member each.

RIBCHESTER.

THIS is a poor village, containing a pariſh church; the living a rectory, in the gift of the biſhop of Cheſter. Ribcheſter is celebrated as having been a Roman ſtation of conſiderable note. The place is bounded on its north-eaſt ſide by a little brook, on its ſouth-eaſt by the river Ribble, both which ſtreams annually make great encroachments on it, eſpecially the latter, which has croſſed over from the other ſide of the vale, and threatens ruin by undermining the banks on which the village ſtands. A row of houſes and ſome gardens have already been ſwept away. Except a rampart and foſs near the church, there are no veſtiges of the exiſtence of the ancient town. The evidences which remain, are the multitude of coins and other Roman antiquities which, even to the preſent time, continue to be found there. Moſt of theſe are diſperſed into different places; a few remain on the ſpot. Various inſcriptions found here are copied by our antiquarian writers; one of them proves that a part of the Sarmatian cavalry was quartered here. As to the Roman name of the place, it is a diſputed point. Camden ſuppoſes it to have been the *Coccium* of Antonine, and the *Rigodunum* of Ptolemy. Horſeley inclines to the firſt name, and makes Warrington the

the ancient Rigodunum. From the diſcovery of anchors here, and rings of ſhips, and even a whole veſſel, it is evident that it was formerly uſed as the haven of the upper end of the *Setantiorum portus*, or eſtuary of the Ribble. The view of the tract evidently ſhews that the water muſt formerly have flowed over the whole plain quite up to Ribcheſter. The flat is bounded on both ſides by high banks. The intervening level on examination exhibits a different kind of ſoil from the ſurrounding country, being deep and muddy, and evidently of recent formation. The gradual retreat of the tide is ſupported by very good evidence. Leland was an eye-witneſs to its flowing more than half way between Preſton and Ribcheſter, at the time he made his ſurvey, which was between the years 1536 and 1542. At preſent, the tides never reach higher than Brocket-hall, two miles above Preſton, and eight from this ſtation; ſo that from Leland's time they have retreated three miles in this river. Probably no large veſſels ever came up hither. The true Portus Setantiorum, or haven of Lancaſhire, lay within the *Neb of the Neſs*, a point jutting into the eſtuary of the Ribble ten miles below Preſton, on which *neb* a Roman fort is ſaid to have been built, now waſhed away by the fury of the tides. Veſtiges of a Roman road from this place pointing to Ribcheſter are to be traced. A quarter of a mile from Ribcheſter is a new and elegant bridge of three arches over the Ribble. Two or three former ones have been ſwept away by floods. Oppoſite Ribcheſter ſtand ſeveral ancient ſeats, and on each ſide the river, deſcending to Preſton, are many reſpectable houſes, now deſerted, once the habitations of old families in this diſtrict. They all ſtand on the edge of the bank, emboſomed once in thick woods of oak, which flouriſhed greatly on the ſteep ſlope. Their ſite is another proof of a former eſtuary or waſh, as they are placed beyond the reach of the tide, but yet near enough to enjoy the benefit of navigation. The

ride

ride along the meanders of this river, from Ribcheſter to Cuerdale, and thence to Preſton, is extremely pleaſing.

Amounderness Hundred.

PRESTON.

AMONG the Lancaſhire towns, *Preſton* is that which has always taken the lead in point of gentility. Its agreeable and central ſituation, the number of good families reſident in its neighbourhood, the gentlemen of the law belonging to its courts, and its freedom from the buſtle of traffic and manufacture, are what have given it this prerogative.

Preſton is ſituated on a riſing ground aſcending from the river Ribble, over which, at about a mile's diſtance, is a bridge at the village of Walton. The walks on the edge of this elevation command a beautiful view of tracts of meadow bounded by gentle wooded riſings, and the river meandering till it terminates in its broad eſtuary. The town is of ancient origin, having, according to Camden, riſen out of the ruins of Ribcheſter, and acquiring its name from its religious foundations, *Preſton* being derived from *Prieſt's-town.* Edmund earl of Lancaſter, ſon of Henry III. founded here the Grey Friars; and there was an hoſpital at a remote period.

Preſton

Preſton is a market town and a borough. The town was firſt incorporated by Henry II. The corporation conſiſts of a mayor, recorder, eight aldermen, four under-aldermen, ſeventeen common-councilmen, and a town-clerk. It has the peculiar privilege of holding a guild every twenty years, which is reſorted to as a kind of jubilee by the people of faſhion and leiſure from all the country round. It is held in Auguſt, and laſts a month. The corporation walks in ſolemn proceſſion, followed by the trading companies under their proper banners, and decorated with the inſignia of their profeſſions. Plays, concerts, and other public amuſements, have made part of the entertainment in modern times.

Preſton enjoys the advantage of being the ſeat of ſeveral law courts. The duchy of Lancaſter holds a court of chancery here, appointed to hear and determine all cauſes according to ſome peculiar cuſtoms held among themſelves. The chancellor of the duchy is chief judge of this court, and has proper officers under him, viz. a vice-chancellor, an attorney-general, chief clerk, regiſter and examiner, five attorneys and clerks, a prothonotary and his deputy, and clerks of the crown and peace. There is alſo a county court, which ſits every Tueſday in the year, and iſſues writs which compel appearance without bail for any ſum above forty ſhillings, and on failure of appearance execution follows. Another court is called the county arreſt, whence proceſs iſſues for ſums under forty ſhillings, alſo without bail. Another is that of the wapentake, in proceſs like the laſt mentioned, but only for the hundred of Amounderneſs. Writs holding to bail are iſſued from the prothonotary's office, upon which the ſheriff grants a warrant for apprehenſion. Other writs are iſſued from this office, not holding to bail, but on ſerving a copy a proceſs takes place in the common pleas. The

borough

borough court iſſues proceſſes for debts up to ten pounds, which compel appearance, or, on failure of it, attach goods in execution to be ſold within a limited number of days. This court can likewiſe ſend criminals to the new priſon, as it takes place of the former houſe of correction. The quarter ſeſſions are held at Preſton by adjournment from Lancaſter, on the Thurſday in the week after Epiphany.

The new priſon, or penitentiary houſe, as it is called, is ſituated near the entrance to Preſton from Chorley. No criminals are confined in it but thoſe from Lonſdale, Amounderneſs, Blackburn, and Weſt Derby hundreds. It was erected at the charge of thoſe hundreds upon Mr. Howard's plan, much reſembling the New Bayley priſon at Manchester. The purpoſe is only for ſalutary confinement and reformation. The priſoners have a daily allowance of one pound and half of bread with a lump of butter, and the value of a halfpenny in potatoes. If they cannot conſume this allowance, they may exchange it for tea and ſugar; but no liquors of any kind are ſuffered to enter the priſon.

Preſton is a parliamentary borough, and ſends two repreſentatives. Few towns have been the ſeat of more violent party conteſts, in ſome of which it has nearly ſuffered the fate of a town beſieged by an enemy. A queſtion has been at iſſue for near a century and a half, whether the right of election was in the in-burgeſſes of the laſt guild and thoſe admitted ſince by copy of court-roll, or in the inhabitants at large, or pot-wallers. Two deciſions by the Houſe of Commons before the paſſing of Mr. Grenville's act, and two ſince, have all agreed in determining the caſe in favour of the inhabitants at large, whence it will probably be no more conteſted. The earl of Derby has great influ-

ence

ence in this borough. The mayor and two bailiffs are returning officers.

The weekly markets are held on Wedneſday, Friday, and Saturday, the latter the principal, and are extremely well regulated to prevent foreſtalling and regrating. None but the town's-people are permitted to buy during the firſt hour, which is from eight to nine in the morning: at nine others may purchaſe; but nothing unſold muſt be withdrawn from the market till one o'clock, fiſh excepted, which, after the town is ſerved, may be taken off in panniers to other places, leſt it ſhould be ſpoiled, and the ſupply of this article is moſt abundant for the town. This market is remarkable for great quantities of meal and ſhelled groats from the Filde diſtrict, upon which the poorer inhabitants in great meaſure ſubſiſt, making their oaten bread called jannock. The ſlaughter houſes are contiguous to the ſhambles, which is a nuiſance to that quarter; but it contributes to make fleſh-meat reaſonable. There are three fairs in the year, in March, (which laſts three days) September, and January. Preſton is ſupplied with coals by means of the Douglas navigation, which enters the Ribble ſomewhat lower than Walton-bridge, and it will have another ſource of ſupply from the new Lancaſter canal, which is to paſs cloſe on the weſtern ſide of Preſton, in its way ſouthwards to the great coal country about Chorley.

Preſton is a handſome well-built town, with broad regular ſtreets, and many good houſes. The earl of Derby has a large modern manſion in it. The place is rendered gay by aſſemblies and other places of amuſement, ſuited to the genteel ſtyle of the inhabitants. Though it is not characterized by trade, yet it is not deſtitute of mercantile houſes of reputation. Formerly it was a ſort of mart for the Lancaſhire linens,

linens, and ſheetings are ſtill ſold here; but of late the cotton branches have obtained poſſeſſion, and the houſe of Watſon and Co. manufacture all the articles of dimities, muſlins, and calicoes, from the raw cotton to the printing, and have a warehouſe for their ſale at Mancheſter. Preſton has a pariſh church, and a chapel for the eſtabliſhment, and places of worſhip for different ſects of ſeparatiſts. It has likewiſe ſeveral alms-houſes and charity ſchools. The pariſh regiſter has afforded the following extracts:

Year.	Chriſt.	Burials.	Marr.	Year.	Chriſt.	Burials.	Marr.
1781	142	184	51	1788	220	189	73
1782	149	250	78	1789	202	209	73
1783	170	159	80	1790	197	179	72
1784	139	266	81	1791	209	279	84
1785	168	180	96	1792	224	282	77
1786	206	214	97	1793	243	218	72
1787	204	277	83	1794	223		91

From its ſituation, Preſton has been an important poſt in the civil commotions of this kingdom, and the ſcene of various military actions. The moſt conſiderable of theſe was in 1648, when the duke of Hamilton and Sir Marmaduke Langdale with a combined army of Engliſh and Scotch of the royal party were defeated with great ſlaughter by a much inferior number under Cromwell and Lambert. The battle was fought on Ribbleton moor, to the eaſtward of the town, and alſo at the paſs of the bridge. The Scotch were purſued by Lambert quite to Wigan. In the year 1715, Preſton was taken poſſeſſion of by the rebel general Forſter, with a mixed body of Scotch and Engliſh, and defended for ſome time againſt the king's troops by means of barricades, but he was at length obliged to ſurrender at diſcretion.

KIRKHAM.

KIRKHAM.

THIS is a market town, ſituated eight miles weſtward of Preſton, in the Filde or Field country. The church is a vicarage, in the gift of Chriſt Church college, Oxford, and has under it ſeven chapels. There is a well-endowed free-ſchool, with three maſters. The market-day is Tueſday; the annual fairs in June and October. The chief trade of Kirkham is coarſe linens, and eſpecially ſail cloth, of which it makes a conſiderable quantity for the uſe of the navy. Though ſituated near the mouth of the Ribble it has no river or port; but the Lancaſter and Kendal canal will come very near the town.

Leyland Hundred.

AT *Walton-le-Dale*, a pleaſant and populous village on the Ribble, a mile from Preſton, is the ſeat of Sir Henry Hoghton, repreſentative in parliament for that borough. The ancient ſeat of this family is *Hoghton-tower*, placed upon an eminence about half way between this place and Blackburn, and alſo in Leyland hundred. This laſt is a great pile conſiſting of two courts with three ſquare towers in the front, beneath the middlemoſt of which is the gateway. The firſt court contains the offices; the ſecond, the dwelling apartments, numerous, but very ruinous. The draw-well is eighty yards deep. This place was garriſoned during the civil wars, and part of it blown up accidentally, but afterwards repaired. In the reign of Henry II. it was called

called *Hocton*, and gave name to the firſt of the family mentioned in hiſtory, Adam de Hocton.

CHORLEY.

THE road from Preſton to Chorley is a good turnpike, made with gravel out of the beds of the Ribble and Douglas. Further ſouthwards the only materials are pebble ſtones bruiſed with hammers, with nothing proper to fill up interſtices.

Chorley is a ſmall, neat market town, taking its name from a rivulet called the Chor, which iſſues from ſeveral ſprings to the eaſt of the town, and after flowing through the pleaſant valley beneath, joins the Yarrow. In its courſe it turns ſeveral mills, engines, and machines for carding and ſpinning of cotton. The Yarrow is a larger ſtream of limpid water, which encircles the extremities of Chorley towards the ſouth. On its banks are many bleaching and printing grounds, with cotton factories intermixed. The ſituation of Chorley is on the great north road, and nearly central to the main part of the county. Its markets are on Tueſdays and Saturdays; the former plentifully ſupplied with every neceſſary. Fiſh of various kinds are brought from Preſton and Lancaſter. Its fairs are held in March, May, Auguſt, and September; the ſpring and ſummer fairs for cattle, the autumn for toys, ſmall wares, and Yorkſhire cloth. Chorley has an ancient chapel, lately made parochial; the ſtructure is ſuppoſed to be Saxon, dedicated to St. Laurence. The walls are ornamented with ancient coats of arms and Saxon characters, and there are hieroglyphic paintings in the windows. The living is in the gift of the rector of Croſton, which

which is the mother church to Chorley. In the church-yard is a grammar ſchool, endowed with ſeveral legacies, but not free to ſcholars. A dungeon or priſon for the confinement of malefactors has ſome time ſince been erected. Plenty of coals and cannel are procured about Chorley, and the country alſo poſſeſſes quarries of aſhler, flag, and mill-ſtone, and mines of lead and alum. Theſe, and other mineral treaſures, will obtain a ready conveyance from the intended canals which are to paſs through them. The population and trade of this town and neighbourhood have been greatly increaſed of late years.

Extracted from the church regiſter from 1779 to 1795.

Years.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Marr.	Years.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Marr.
1779	101	39	11	1787	99	60	29
1780	96	62	17	1788	139	118	28
1781	108	41	22	1789	122	56	21
1782	103	50	18	1790	148	66	25
1783	90	73	27	1791	143	72	36
1784	118	53	34	1792	156	83	35
1785	120	80	27	1793	163	91	26
1786	104	65	22	1794	168	122	23

LEYLAND PARISH.

LEYLAND, from whence the hundred takes its name, is a pleaſant and dry village. The church is a noble room of ſixty-five feet by thirty-three, a fine arch without a ſingle pillar. The living is a vicarage: the impropriate rectory belonged to the abbey of Penwortham. In the church are ſeveral monuments of the Faringtons. The

ſeat

ſeat of this family is *Shaw-hall*, at a ſmall diſtance from Leyland. This is a large but irregular houſe, containing ſome fine apartments, among which is a muſeum for natural hiſtory. There is a collection of pictures, ſome of them very valuable; particularly ſome freſco paintings taken from the walls of Herculaneum. The views from the houſe are pleaſing; the grounds are laid out in a modern ſtyle, and there is a very excellent kitchen garden with fruit ſtoves, &c. The late owner, Sir William Farington, ſpent the greater part of his life at this place, and amuſed himſelf with improvements of all kinds. The family are lords of this manor, and alſo of the fee or honour of Penwortham, and of ſeveral other adjoining manors; but the manor of Farington, the ancient ſeat of the family, was long ago in the poſſeſſion of the church, and at the diſſolution was ſold to the Fleetwoods.

STANDISH PARISH.

THE village of *Standiſh* has a very handſome church with a ſpire ſteeple. The pillars within ſhew an attempt at the Tuſcan order. It was rebuilt in 1584, chiefly by the aſſiſtance of Richard Moodie, the rector, who maintained the workmen with proviſion at his own coſt during the time. He was the firſt proteſtant paſtor, conformed, and procured the living by the ceſſion of the tythes of Standiſh. He lies in effigy on his tomb in the church dreſſed in his Franciſcan habit, with an inſcription declarative of his munificence. There is likewiſe a handſome tomb of Sir Edward Wrightington, knight, king's council, who died in 1658, and lies recumbent in alabaſter, in his gown. The rectory is at preſent worth £.700 per annum. There is only one chapel of eaſe in the pariſh, which is Coppull.

The

The principal grain produced in the pariſh is oats; ſome barley and a little wheat are ſown. The farms are generally ſmall, ſcarcely any exceeding, and few reaching, £.100 per annum. Land lets from 35*s.* to 50*s.* per acre of eight yards to the rood, and a little, particularly rich, at £.3. Manual labour is from 1*s.* 8*d.* to 2*s.* a day. Coals are met with plentifully in the pariſh, and a tunnel is about to be carried from the mines in the Standiſh eſtate to convey them to the Liverpool canal. The cotton manufacture is the ſtaple trade of the pariſh; but ſome coarſe linens are alſo woven. Poor's rates are high.

The gentlemens' ſeats are,

Standiſh-hall; an old houſe of the Standiſh family. It contains a few relics of the Arundel collection.

Duxbury; Sir Frank Standiſh.

Adlington; Sir Richard Clayton. This is a new houſe, with a few good pictures, eſpecially one of a dead head of Charles I. extremely well painted. The Clayton family were originally ſettled at Clayton near Leyland, which was granted to Robert de Clayton by William the Conqueror. They removed to Adlington about a century ago.

In Coppull is *Chiſnal-hall*, formerly the ſeat of the family of Chiſnals, to one of whom, a colonel in the civil wars, there is a memorial in the church. The laſt repreſentative of this family having built for his reſidence *Tompſon-houſe* in Langtree near Standiſh, ſuffered the old hall to be occupied by tenants. The family eſtate is now poſſeſſed by James Hammerton, Eſq. of Hellifield Peel, near Craven, whoſe grand-

grandfather married one of the co-heireſſes. Coal abounds in this eſtate.

Wrightington-hall, near Standiſh, the ſeat of William Diccouſon, Eſq. is ſaid to have been the firſt ſaſh-window houſe in Lancaſhire, and the firſt to the north of the Trent in the kingdom.

The Kendal and Lancaſter canal will paſs through this pariſh.

West Derby Hundred.

WIGAN.

THIS borough is ſituated near the ſmall river Douglas, on the north road. It is a conſiderable town, which, as far back as the time of Leland, is called a "paved town as big as Warrington, but better builded, "and inhabited by ſome merchants, artificers, and farmers." It was firſt incorporated by Henry I. and poſſeſſes a charter from queen Elizabeth, and a later one from Charles II. The corporation conſiſts of a mayor, recorder, twelve aldermen, two bailiffs, and an indefinite number of freemen admitted by a jury in the mayor's court. The rector of the pariſh, as ſuch, is lord of the manor, and has a rectory-houſe and glebe land annexed to it. The living is valuable. Wigan ſends two members to parliament, the right of election ſuppoſed to belong to the free burgeſſes, in number about 200. The power veſted in the corporation of admitting out-ſtanding or honorary burgeſſes is a powerful engine in elections, and has been greatly abuſed. Many very expenſive conteſts have happened in this borough. The preſent

patrons

patrons are the duke of Portland and lord Bradford. It has a town hall, erected in 1720 at the joint expence of the then repreſentatives, lord Barrymore and Sir Roger Bradſhaigh.

The pariſh church is antient beyond any traditionary account, and has four chapels under it. One of theſe is St. George's chapel in the town of Wigan. The church has a ring of bells remarkably deep-toned and tuneable, the tenor weighing 29½ cwt. There is a free-grammar ſchool, and one for blue-coat boys, ſome alms-houſes founded by lady Bradſhaigh, and a good workhouſe for the poor of the townſhip. The main ſtreets of the town are broad, but irregularly built, with a mixture of old and modern houſes.

Wigan has long been noted for the making of checks and braziery work. The Wigan checks were in much eſtimation, nor have they yet loſt their ſuperiority over thoſe of Mancheſter; but the cotton manufactory, as in all other places, intrudes upon the old ſtaple of the place. The braziery is now on the decline. Some ſail-cloth is made here in time of war. An ingenious perſon works cannel coal into vaſes, ſnuff boxes, beads, and other toys. The market days of Wigan are Mondays and Fridays; the fairs are in July and October. The ſtate and progreſs of population will appear in the following extract from the regiſter:

Years.	Marr.	Chriſts.	Bur.	Years.	Marr.	Chriſts.	Bur.
1780	92	425	240	1785	115	458	240
1781	86	414	252	1786	129	492	222
1782	101	440	207	1787	104	467	349
1783	95	415	191	1788	110	482	341
1784	91	462	327	1789	122	496	316

Years.

Years.	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Years.	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.
1790	117	507	200	1793	123	595	330
1791	136	518	411	1794	104	565	373
1792	147	630	338				

We have already mentioned, that the river Douglas many years ſince was made navigable to the Ribble, by which means a large vent for the coals with which this diſtrict abounds was obtained, and the town received other advantages. Theſe have been augmented by a canal cut within a few years to Liverpool, (part of that between Leeds and Liverpool) whereby a direct communication has been opened with that port. There is a mineral water at Wigan, of a ſimilar nature with that of Harrowgate, and uſed for cutaneous and ſcorbutic diſorders. The town derives a plentiful ſupply of ſpring water from reſervoirs at Whittle.

Near the north end of the town is a monument erected to the memory of Sir Thomas Tildeſley, who was ſlain on this ſpot in an action, in which the earl of Derby, having riſen in favour of the young king Charles II. in 1651, was defeated by Lilburne.

The pariſh of Wigan contains twelve townſhips. One of theſe is *Haigh*, noted for yielding the fineſt cannel coal. It is gotten in large blocks, as black as jet, and bearing a fine poliſh. The beds are about three feet in thickneſs; the veins dip one yard in twenty, and are found at great depths, with a black baſs above and below. On an eminence in this townſhip is ſituated *Haigh-hall*, the ſeat of the Bradſhaighs; an ancient houſe, built at different times, the chapel ſuppoſed to be of the age of Edward II. In front are the Stanley arms, and beneath

neath them thoſe of the Bradſhaigh family, which in all civil commotions has united with the former. It poſſeſſes many excellent pictures, particularly portraits. A ſummer-houſe belonging to the hall is entirely built of cannel coal.

Ince, to the eaſt of Wigan, produces cannel equally good with that of Haigh.

Up-Holland, a village to the weſt of Wigan, had formerly a priory of Benedictines, of which nothing now remains but the church and a few walls. The poſterity of its founder, Robert de Holland, roſe to the higheſt dignities of the ſtate, with the titles of earls of Surry and Kent, and dukes of Exeter, but underwent many calamities, and at length came to a miſerable end.

Billinge, near the former, is diſtinguiſhed by a lofty eminence, crowned by an old beacon, whence is a very extenſive proſpect over the flat part of Lancaſhire.

Winſtanley in its neighbourhood has a valuable ſpecies of coal, excellent for the ſmith's uſe, which is fetched for that purpoſe from the country round to a great diſtance.

L E I G H.

THIS is a ſmall market town, the market-day Saturday. Its church is ancient; the living a vicarage, which has under it two chapels. The country around is populous and manufacturing. The trade was formerly

formerly in fuſtians, ſuch as pillows, barragons, thick ſets and velverets; latterly, they have made here fine yard-wide jeans, in imitation of India, with figured and flowered draw-boys. Their ſpun cotton for warp and weft is moſtly got from Mancheſter. At a mile's diſtance are good coal pits, which ſupply the town at a cheap rate. Lime is got at Bedford near Leigh, of a kind like that of Sutton, hardening ſpeedily under water, and therefore fit for lining reſervoirs, and the like purpoſes. It is much uſed in the duke of Bridgewater's canal. The rapid increaſe of population, or the improvement in the mode of living (probably both) in this town and neighbourhood, may be judged of from the following fact—in 1758 one beaſt was ſlaughtered at Chriſtmas, and proved too much for the market; in 1792, thirty-five beaſts (cows) were ſlaughtered at Chriſtmas, and proved too little. The pariſh regiſter for the laſt twenty years affords the following reſults:

Year.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Marr.	Year.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Marr.
1774	240	173	96	1785	371	159	104
1775	280	126	82	1786	373	230	90
1776	276	130	98	1787	399	164	92
1777	248	176	77	1788	361	211	106
1778	280	107	82	1789	417	215	75
1779	279	160	75	1790	371	153	96
1780	332	174	79	1791	382	194	91
1781	310	143	104	1792	412	165	96
1782	314	262	69	1793	392	177	80
1783	372	113	90	1794	341	170	56
1784	300	140	131				

Leigh pariſh is famous for its cheeſe, of a mild and rich kind, and peculiarly excellent for toaſting. It is produced from the paſture and meadow land on the banks of ſeveral little ſtreams which flow through the pariſh, and unite to form the brook which enters the Merſey at Glaze-brook. Leigh, it is hoped, will ſhortly have the advantage of a navigation by means of a branch extended from the duke of Bridgewater's canal at Worſley to Pennington.

From Leigh an avenue and pleaſure grounds near a mile in length lead to *Atherton-hall*, formerly the ſeat of the Atherton family, from which it paſſed by marriage to the Gwillyms. This is a noble manſion, erected at great expence, and which took a long time in finiſhing. Its plan is in the *Vitruvius Britannicus*; the architect was Gibbs. A vaſt cubical hall at the entrance gives it an air of magnificence, but at the expence of utility.

The very populous village of *Chowbent* is contiguous to Atherton. In it are made a great quantity of cotton goods, chiefly of the coarſer kinds, and ſeveral branches of iron work, particularly nails; but theſe laſt have been in great meaſure driven out by the cotton trade, and have migrated towards Aſhton in the willows. Five and twenty years ago, Chowbent was reckoned to contain 2400 inhabitants, and it is ſuppoſed to have doubled its inhabitants within that period. A diſſenting congregation here was returned to Dr. Percival, in 1773, as containing by exact enumeration 1160 perſons. The chapel of the eſtabliſhment at Atherton or Chowbent formerly belonged to the diſſenters, but was taken from them in conſequence of an election diſpute, and conſecrated by the celebrated Dr. Wilſon, biſhop of Sodor and Man, and to this day it remains out of the juriſdiction of the dioceſe of Cheſter, and in

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the gift of the Atherton family. In the rebellion in 1717, Mr. Wood, the then diſſenting miniſter of Chowbent, led a conſiderable body of his flock to join the royal army, and to them was committed the cuſtody of the paſs over the Ribble at Walton. From this exertion of loyalty Mr. Wood obtained the popular title of General, by which he was ever after known; and many ſtories are ſtill current of his cheerful ſingularities.

We have been favoured with the following particular account of the new village of *Tildſley* in this pariſh:

The *Banks of Tildſley*, in the pariſh of Leigh, are about one mile and a half in length, and command a moſt beautiful proſpect into ſeven counties. The air is pure and healthy; the ſprings remarkably ſoft and clear, and moſt excellently adapted to the purpoſes of bleaching. The land is rich, but moſtly in meadow and paſtures, for milk, butter, and the noted Leigh cheeſe. This eſtate had, in the year 1780, only two farm houſes and eight or nine cottages, but now contains 162 houſes, a neat chapel, and 976 inhabitants, who employ 325 looms in the cotton manufactories of Marſeilles quiltings, dimities, corduroys, velvets, velveteens, thickſets, muſlins, muſlinets, and new ſtripes for furniture. Lately Mr. Johnſon has erected a large factory ſix ſtories high, and a ſteam engine, with dye-houſes and other extenſive buildings for the woollen buſineſs, which conſiſts of kerſeymeers and various fancy goods in all woollen, and ſilk and woollen. There are two other factories upon the eſtate, intended to be let for the woollen buſineſs, and one very large building newly erected, intended for the ſpinning of woollen and worſted. It is Mr. Johnſon's intention to introduce the woollen branches into this part of the country, and it certainly appears

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a very eligible ſituation, having great plenty of coal, fine water, being in the centre of ſome thouſand weavers, and only diſtant four miles from the duke of Bridgewater's canals at Worſley; and the Lancaſter canal will run near the eſtate. Mr. Johnſon has been at a conſiderable expence in ſetting up the neweſt and moſt approved machinery for willowing, ſcribbling, carding, roving, and ſpinning of fine woollen yarn, which he means to employ, not only for himſelf, but for the accommodation of all others who may be induced to ſettle upon the eſtate in the woollen buſineſs. There are a number of boys from twelve to ſixteen years of age at the factory, who are with great care progreſſively inſtructed in the manufacture of various fancy woollen articles, with a view of eſtabliſhing the fine woollen buſineſs in the neighbourhood; and Mancheſter being the firſt repoſitory of manufactures, is daily frequented by foreigners, and town and country buyers, which has already induced ſeveral capital woollen houſes to ſettle there. Every ſort of new machinery ſeems to be encouraged by the work people in Tildſley, and the great advantages of ſcribbling and ſhearing by ſteam or water, with the uſe of the fly ſhuttle, will moſt probably be a means of eſtabliſhing manufactories there.

WARRINGTON.

THIS town, ſituated on the Merſey, nearly central to the limit between the two counties of Lancaſter and Cheſter, is of conſiderable antiquity. From the ſite of the church it would appear that the whole town was originally confined to its preſent eaſtern extremity, which lies oppoſite to that old ford of the river which gave name to the village of Latchford. But on the building of the preſent bridge, (which was erected

erected by the firſt earl of Derby, for the purpoſe, it is ſaid, of accommodating Henry VII. on a viſit to him) the buildings collected in its neighbourhood, and the vicinity of the church, was deſerted. This was already the caſe in the time of Leland, who deſcribes Warrington as "a paved town of pretty bigneſs, with an Auguſtine friary at the town's end, and the pariſh church at the tail of all the town." He ſays it has a better market than Mancheſter. The friary, which exiſted before 1379, ſtood near the bridge, its ſite being ſtill indicated by the name of an adjacent ſtreet, though not a veſtige of the building remains. The charter for markets and fairs was obtained in the reign of Edward I. by Sir Thomas Boteler, head of an ancient family near this place, of whom, with his lady, there is a magnificent alabaſter tomb, ornamented with variety of ſculpture, in a chapel of the pariſh church. He reſided at the houſe of Bewſey near this town, and tradition reports that he and his lady were murdered by aſſaſſins who croſſed the moat in leathern boats. An ancient moated manſion is ſtill in being at Bewſey.

The principal part of the town conſiſts of four ſtreets croſſing at the centre, one of which runs directly from the bridge, and from its narrowneſs and mean building, gives but an unfavourable idea of the place to a ſtranger. But ſome of the other ſtreets are much opener, and contain many good houſes interſperſed, the uſual effect of commercial opulence riſing in a place of antiquity. It has the common fault of being moſt ſtraightened at the centre; a great inconvenience to a town which is one of the principal thoroughfares of the north, being the only entrance from the ſouth to all the north-weſtern part of England, and the buſy port of Liverpool. There is no bridge over the Merſey between Warrington and the ſea, and none for many miles upwards between it and Mancheſter. From this circumſtance Warrington has always

always been a poſt of conſequence in the civil commotions of this kingdom, and various actions have taken place on this ſpot, of which one of the moſt conſiderable was the ſlaughter and capture of a large body of the fugitive Scotch army under the duke of Hamilton in 1648, after the defeat of the combined royal forces near Preſton. Lambert was the parliamentary general on this occaſion, who likewiſe made a ſtand here againſt the Scotch army which advanced under the young king in 1651, but was obliged to retreat. In the rebellion of 1745 the bridge at Warrington was broken down, whereby the Pretender's army was induced to vary from their intended route ſouthwards, and take the road through Mancheſter.

Warrington has long been of ſome note as a trading town. In the firſt part of this century a great quantity of coarſe linens and checks was made in the town and neighbourhood, and ſold at its markets; but in later years, the manufacture of ſail-cloth or poldavy, was introduced, and roſe to ſuch a height, that half of the heavy ſail-cloth uſed in the navy has been computed to be manufactured here. Sail-cloth is for the moſt part made of hemp and flax mixed, but ſome is made of flax alone. The raw materials are chiefly brought from Ruſſia to the port of Liverpool, whence they come to Warrington by water-carriage. This manufacture has brought wealth and population to the place; but a branch of trade ſubject to ſuch variation in the demand, according to the prevalence of peace or war, has had its inconveniences; and, in fact, Warrington has partaken leſs of the increaſed proſperity of the county than many other towns. During the interval between the laſt and the preſent war, ſeveral of the manufacturers exerted themſelves to introduce the cotton branches here, and ſucceeded to a conſiderable degree. As the coarſer cotton goods were thoſe chiefly attempted, many

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of the ſail-cloth weavers, for the ſake of more employment and better wages, turned their hands to the new manufacture, which cauſed a conſiderable decline of the old; but ſince the commencement of the war the caſe has been reverſed. Various other trades have added to the buſineſs of the town. The making of pins has been, and ſtill is, carried on to a pretty large extent; and locks, hinges, and other articles of hardware are fabricated here. Large works for the ſmelting of copper were eſtabliſhed near the town, and uſed for ſeveral years, but have for ſome time been diſcontinued. The refinery of ſugar, and the making of glaſs, have employed many hands; and the latter, particularly, is a flouriſhing branch of manufacture. An iron foundry has likewiſe been ſet up, which makes a variety of common articles. Warrington has been long noted for its malt and ale, and deals pretty largely in the corn and flour trade. Beſides theſe ſources of gain and employment, the great reſort of travellers to the town promotes a conſiderable circulation of money. Its markets (the principal of which is on Wedneſday, the other on Saturday) are frequented by an extenſive and populous circumjacent country; though the Bridgewater canal, which paſſes a mile and a half to the ſouth of Warrington in its courſe to Mancheſter, has drawn off a good deal of the Cheſhire buſineſs from this neighbourhood to the latter town. At the latter of the two annual fairs, in November, buſineſs to a conſiderable amount is tranſacted, particularly in Iriſh linen and Welch flannel from Cheſter fair, and in Yorkſhire cloths. Much butcher's meat of an inferior kind killed here is carried to the Liverpool and other markets; and quantities of fruit and vegetables grown round the town are ſent away for the ſupply of Mancheſter, Bolton, and other parts in the manufacturing diſtricts.

The

The population of Warrington has received a large increaſe within the latter half of this century. The pariſh regiſter affords the following annual averages:

	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.
From 1750 to 1769 incluſive, - - -	73	237	199
From 1770 to 1772 incluſive, - - -	95	331	258

In 1773 exact bills of mortality were begun to be kept, which comprehended the diſſenters of all kinds, as well as the eſtabliſhment. The following annual reſults are taken from them.

Year.	Marr.	Births.	Deaths.	Year.	Marr.	Births.	Death.
1773	93	356	473	1779	105	392	295
1774	69	398	208	1780	93	413	362
1775	50	370	199	1781	93	435	270
1776	101	378	234	1782	84	387	267
1777	78	415	364	1783	87	325	265
1778	96	400	214				

In the year 1781 an enumeration of the houſes and inhabitants of Warrington and its vicinity was made, of which the particulars were as follows:

	Houſes.	Inhab.
Town and townſhip of Warrington, - -	1941	8791
Poulton and Fearnhead, - - - -	73	343
Woolſton, - - - - - -	76	367
Suburb in Cheſhire, - - - - -	55	269

In

In that year, the births, as ſtated in the preceding bills, ran higheſt, and after it population ſeems to have been upon the decline. But the introduction of the cotton trade gave it freſh vigour, and many new houſes for the accommodation of working people were built. The reſult is ſhewn in the following extracts from the bills:

Year.	Marr.	Births.	Deaths.	Year.	Marr.	Births.	Deaths.
1785 to 1789	Aver.	430	315	1792	127	478	314
1790	102	418	407	1793	103	514	361
1791	127	444	286	1794	81	423	319

In the laſt yearly bill are ſubjoined the births and burials for two country chapelries in the pariſh, viz.

Hollingfare, - - - 47 births, 22 burials,
Burtonwood, - - - 38 ditto, 11 ditto.

Warrington may, in ſome meaſure, be conſidered as a port town, the Merſey admitting, by the help of the tide, veſſels of ſeventy or eighty tons burthen, to Bank-quay, a little below the town, where warehouſes, cranes, and other conveniences for landing goods are erected. The ſpring-tides riſe at the bridge to the height of nine feet. Upwards, the river communication extends to Mancheſter. The Merſey naturally is well ſtored with fiſh. In the proper ſeaſons large quantities of ſalmon have been caught in the vicinity of the town, ſo as formerly to afford a cheap article of food to the inhabitants; but the demands for the luxury of the great towns in its neighbourhood, and of the diſtant metropolis itſelf, together with the diminution of the number of fiſh, owing to too frequent moleſtation and want of proper atten-

attention, have latterly made a rarity what was once a plentiful variety. The ſame may be ſaid of the ſmelts or ſparlings, which annually in ſpring come up the river in ſhoals, formerly conſiſting of vaſt numbers, and of a ſize ſuperior to thoſe of other parts. But both the ſize and numbers have been much diminiſhed, as is ſuppoſed, by the conſtant fiſhing in the lower parts of the river, whereby the ſpawn and young fry are deſtroyed.

Warrington is well ſupplied with coals, partly by land carriage from the pits of Haydock and its neighbourhood, partly by the Sankey canal, which comes within a mile and a half of the town.

The land around Warrington conſiſts of rich meadows bordering on the river, and occaſionally flooded, and of paſture and garden ground. It is noted for its gooſberries, which are ſuperior in ſize, and of greater variety of kinds, than in moſt parts of the kingdom. A very fine kind of damſon is alſo common here. Potatoes are raiſed in large quantities, and thirty or forty thouſand buſhels have been ſhipped at Bank-quay in a year.

Beſides the pariſh church, Warrington contains a chapel of eaſe, and there is another chapel of the eſtabliſhment in the ſuburb over the bridge, belonging to the pariſh of Groppenhall. There are alſo places of worſhip for the Roman catholics, preſbyterians, anabaptiſts, methodiſts, and quakers. There is a very well endowed free ſchool in the town; and a charity for educating and maintaining poor children of both ſexes.

About thirty-ſeven years ſince, a ſeminary for educating youth upon a liberal academical plan was inſtituted in this town, and ſupported by ſub-

ſubſcriptions, chiefly among the diſſenters. It flouriſhed during a conſiderable period under the care of tutors of eminence, ſeveral of them well known in the republic of letters, but at length ſunk, through want of adequate ſupport, and the difficulties in maintaining proper diſcipline.

Near to Warrington is *Orford*, the ſeat of the Blackburne family, rendered celebrated by its late venerable poſſeſſor, for its botanical treaſures. A tribute to his memory was inſerted in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for March 1787, which we ſhall tranſcribe.

" John Blackburne, Eſq. of Orford, near Warrington, Lancaſhire, was one of the venerable relics of the laſt century; for at his death he had attained to, I think, his 96th year. This uncommon age was the reward of a very regular and temperate life, and a mind undiſturbed by any violent emotions. His health and tranquillity were alſo not a little promoted by the turn he took early in life to the cultivation of plants. He was, as I have been well informed, the ſecond gentleman in England who cultivated that delicious fruit, now ſo common, the Pine-Apple; and his garden always continued one of the chief objects of botanical curioſity for its products, both foreign and domeſtic, in the north of England. Of this a catalogue was printed by his gardener, Mr. Neal, in the year 1779, which was well received by the lovers of that delightful ſcience. Here, as Mr. Pennant, in one of his tours, obſerves, the venerable owner, like another Evelyn, ſpent the calm evening of his life, under the flouriſhing ſhades of his own planting. He retained his faculties in very conſiderable perfection, till within two or three years before his death; and the writer of this account has frequently enjoyed the pleaſure of hearing him converſe with

with cheerfulneſs, and ready recollection, on the events of former years, and on topics of horticulture and natural hiſtory. He was exemplary in the diſcharge of religious duties, and in charity to the poor; and his numerous houſehold was governed with that order, decorum, and regular economy, which ſo well ſuited his ſtation and character.

"By his lady, of the family of Aſhton, in Lancaſhire, he had a numerous progeny, ſeveral of whom are now living in very reſpectable ſituations. Mrs. Anna Blackburne, his ſurviving daughter, who imbibed his taſte for botany, and added to it the other branches of natural hiſtory, is well known as the poſſeſſor of an elegant and valuable muſeum, little inferior to that of her relation, Sir Aſhton Lever. This was enriched with many curious ſpecimens from North America, by a brother who died in that country ſeveral years ago. Mr. Blackburne's eldeſt ſon ſettled at Hale, in Lancaſhire. The preſent John Blackburne, Eſq. knight of the ſhire for Lancaſhire, is *his* ſon and ſucceſſor."

To this we ſhall add, that the laſt-mentioned gentleman now inhabits the ſeat of his grandfather, which he has greatly improved by alterations in the modern taſte, but without infringing upon its *botanical* eſtabliſhment. Mrs. A. Blackburne is ſince dead, but her muſeum is preſerved at her late houſe near Warrington.

The Liverpool and Mancheſter road on each ſide of Warrington is now made with ſlag or droſs from the copper works, broken with hammers into ſmall pieces, and raiſed in the middle. This makes an excellent and durable road. That part between Warrington and Preſcott is equal to any in the kingdom.

WINWICK

WINWICK PARISH.

THE village of Winwick, three miles north of Warrington, is remarkable for being the ſeat of the richeſt rectory in England. The pariſh is large and fertile, and the whole townſhip of Winwick, one eſtate excepted, is glebe land to the church, the rector being lord of the manor. The whole value of the living is ſuppoſed at preſent to be little ſhort of £.3000 per annum. It is in the gift of the earl of Derby. The preſent very reſpectable incumbent, the Rev. Geoffry Hornby, has made great additions to the parſonage houſe, and improvements of the grounds about it, ſo as to render it an adequate reſidence for ſuch a benefice. There is alſo a good free-ſchool in the village. The church is an ancient edifice with a ſpire ſteeple, a conſpicuous object from a great diſtance. A Latin inſcription in monkiſh rhyme, written in old characters, runs round the ſouth ſide of the church, intimating that the place was once a favourite ſeat of Oſwald, king of Northumberland, in the time of the heptarchy. Dr. Sherlock, grandfather of the biſhop of London of that name, died rector of this place in 1689.

Newton, in Winwick pariſh, once a ſmall market town, and though now but a village, ſtill retaining the more important privilege of ſending two members to parliament, lies on the north road between Warrington and Wigan, forming a broad ſtreet diſtinguiſhed by its numerous public houſes—the true borough badge. The right of election is in the free burgeſſes, who are occupiers of certain houſes; their number is about thirty-ſix. The ſteward of the lord of the manor, and the bailiff, are returning officers. The property of the borough is in the family of Legh of Haydock in this pariſh, and Lyme in Cheſhire.

Newton

Newton has a chapel of the eſtabliſhment.

Aſhton in Makerfield, or *in the Willows*, a village in the ſame pariſh, agreeably ſituated on the north road, is become a thriving place of traffic, having employment both in the cotton trade, and in ſome branches of the hardware manufactory. This laſt is managed by workmen, who perform their work at home, and take it to their employers, as the weaver does his piece. Aſhton has likewiſe a chapel.

Throughout the whole of Winwick pariſh there is much ſpinning of cotton and flax.

PRESCOTT.

THIS is a moderate-ſized market town, ſituated about eight miles to the eaſtward of Liverpool, and on the turnpike road between that port and Warrington. Its ſituation is dry and elevated, ſo that the ſpire ſteeple of its church is an object from all the low part of this county and Cheſhire to the diſtance of a great many miles. The town may be ſaid almoſt to be built over coal-pits, ſeveral being worked cloſe to its extremities, and its neighbourhood ſupplying large quantities of this article to Liverpool and the circumjacent parts. The town is ſtraggling and of conſiderable length. Its market-day is Tueſday; it has two yearly fairs, in June and November. The church is a vicarage, and of conſiderable value. There is likewiſe a diſſenting meeting, and a free-ſchool, and a number of alms-houſes.

Preſcott

Prefcott has ſeveral manufactories of coarſe earthen ware; but it is particularly diſtinguiſhed as the centre of the manufacture of watch tools and movements, of which we ſhall proceed to give an account.

The watch-tools made here have been excellent beyond the memory of the oldeſt watch-makers; and the manufacture has been much extended by improvements in making new tools of all ſorts, and the inventions for firſt cutting teeth in wheels, and afterwards for finiſhing them with exactneſs and expedition. The drawing of pinion wire originated here, which is carried as far as to fifty drawings, and the wire is completely adapted for every ſize of pinions to drive the wheels of watches, admirable for truth and fitneſs for the purpoſe, but left for the workmen to harden. This pinion wire is now very cheap, the price having been lowered by a ſingle workman in that branch, who left the country forty years ſince and ſettled at Iſlington, where he offered it at half price to the tool ſhops in London.

They make here ſmall files, the beſt in the world, at a ſuperior price, indeed, but well worth the money, from the goodneſs of the ſteel, and exactneſs of cutting. They do not attempt making the larger files.

They make watch-movements moſt excellent in kind, which is greatly owing to the ſuperior quality of their files and tools. They likewiſe excel in what is called motion-work, ſuch as dial wheels, locking ſprings, hour, minute, and ſecond hands, &c. Main ſprings, chains for movements, and watch-caſes, were not part of the original manufacture, but are now made here.

All

All theſe branches extend from Preſcott to the ſurrounding villages, and all along the road to Liverpool, in which town the buſineſs ſeems finally to have centered: the drawing of pinion wire particularly, is now principally carried on at a place called the Park, near Liverpool. Upon the whole, this tool-making buſineſs keeps removing to Liverpool, in the ſame manner as the fuſtian making, which originated at Bolton, has removed to Mancheſter. The tool and watch-movement makers are numerouſly ſcattered over the country from Preſcott to Liverpool, occupying ſmall farms in conjunction with their manufacturing buſineſs, in which circumſtance they reſemble the weavers about Mancheſter. All Europe is more or leſs ſupplied with the articles above-mentioned made in this neighbourhood.

The pariſh of Preſcott is extenſive, and contains various objects deſerving of notice.

St. Helens has of late years riſen from a ſmall village to be a well-built and populous market town. Its increaſe has been owing to the various works eſtabliſhed in its neighbourhood. In the year 1773, was erected at Ravenhead, near St. Helens, the *Britiſh Plate-Glaſs Manufactory*, incorporated by act of parliament, occupying near thirty acres of land encloſed by a wall. The buildings have coſt near £.40,000. Between 300 and 400 men are conſtantly employed in the works. The metal table upon which the glaſſes are caſt and rolled is fifteen feet long, nine feet wide, and ſix inches thick. The manufacture was introduced by workmen from France, and is brought to great perfection. Glaſſes have been caſt here of the following ſizes:

133 inches by 72	135 inches by 62
139 ditto by 69	144 ditto by 54

The

The glaſs is chiefly ſent to London, and lodged for ſale in the Company's warehouſe near Blackfriars bridge. It is as brilliant in colour and perfect in every reſpect as the French, though the want of wood fewel was for ſome time a diſadvantage, which has been overcome by great induſtry and care in the choice and uſe of the coals employed. In 1789 a ſteam engine was erected to grind and poliſh the plates of glaſs, which is a very curious piece of mechaniſm, and not only ſaves a great deal of labour, but does the work with more exactneſs and expedition. This invention is ſaid to perform as much work as would employ 160 men.

Near St. Helen's a few years ago was alſo eſtabliſhed a manufactory for window glaſs, and for blowing ſmall plates.

At St. Helen's, about the year 1780, a moſt extenſive copper-work was erected by Meſſrs. Hughes, Williams, and Co. for the purpoſe of ſmelting and refining copper-ore from Paris mountain in Angleſey. Of this ore, 20,000 tons per annum are ſmelted here and at another work upon the ſame navigation, which is the Sankey canal. The Raven-head works manufacture thirty tons weekly of ſmall copper bars, not ſeven ounces troy weight, for the Eaſt India Company, which are exported to China, and are ſuppoſed to paſs for coin. Theſe bars are dropped from the mould into water, when an effervescence begins in a few minutes to take place at one end, and proceeds quickly to the other, by which the bar is changed from a leaden hue to the colour of red ſealing wax. The bar reſembles in ſhape a ſtick of wax.

In the adjoining townſhip of *Sutton*, an excellent clay is found, and made uſe of for making ſugar moulds and coarſe earthen-ware; and in the townſhip of *Rainford*, about five miles from St. Helen's, there is good

good clay for making crucibles and fire bricks. In *Sutton* townſhip and *Parr* iron ſtone has been found in large quantities above the coals, and in ſome places beds of cokes or cinders have been diſcovered, three feet thick, ſaid to have been made from the iron works of the Danes, when in poſſeſſion of this part of the country—and this ſeems probable, from the manner of their getting the ore, which is proved to have been by ſinking a ſhaft to the iron ſtone, and excavating the ſame by enlarging the aperture, in the form of a cone, ſo long as they durſt venture to truſt the roof, and then ſinking a new ſhaft near, and filling up the old one with the ſoil, &c. ſo produced. The cinders appear to have reſiſted the efforts of time, and to remain in the ſame ſtate they were in when buried; and as diſcovered, they have been made uſe of for the repair of roads.

KNOWSLEY.

ABOUT a mile and a half from Preſcott lies Knowſley, in Huyton pariſh, the reſidence of the earls of Derby, ſeated in a park, high, and much expoſed to the weſt winds, the effects of which are viſible in the ſhorn form of the trees towards that quarter. This was a manor appertaining to Lathom. The houſe conſiſts of two parts joining to each other at right angles. The more ancient is of ſtone, and has two round towers. This was built by Thomas, firſt earl of Derby, for the reception of his ſon-in-law king Henry VII. The other part, which is of brick, was built by the two laſt earls. The noble family of Stanley, the title of which is derived from Weſt Derby in Lancaſhire, not from the county of that name, has for many generations been ſettled in Lancaſhire, in which it holds large poſſeſſions and the firſt

firſt intereſt. In this houſe is a long ſeries of portraits of the family, many of whom have been highly diſtinguiſhed by the virtues which ſhould adorn an Engliſh nobleman. It contains likewiſe a capital collection of pictures by ſome of the firſt Italian and Flemiſh maſters, which was purchaſed by James earl of Derby, who ſent abroad for that purpoſe Hamlet Winſtanley, a painter, a native of Warrington. Winſtanley etched twenty plates of the fineſt of theſe paintings in the years 1728 and 1729.

ORMSKIRK PARISH.

ORMSKIRK is a neat market town, with four well-built ſtreets croſſing each other at right angles, leaving a handſome opening at the centre. Its only trade is the ſpinning of cotton for the Mancheſter manufactures, and thread for ſail-cloth. It has long been in poſſeſſion of a fair and market by virtue of a grant from king Edward I. (confirmed by Edward II.) to the canons of Burſcough, to whom the church and manor belonged. The manor and patronage of the church now belong to the earl of Derby. The living is a vicarage. The church is remarkable for its two ſteeples placed contiguous, one, a tower, the other, a ſhort ſpire, concerning the erection of which various ſtories are told. In a chapel within the church is the cemetery of the Derby family, being a vault, the deſcent to which is cloſed by folding doors. me monuments of this family were removed hither from Burſcough priory, at the diſſolution.

From the top of the ſteeple is a fine proſpect of the adjacent country, the Iriſh ſea, the mouth of the Ribble, and the towns of Liverpool and

and Preſton at indiſtinct diſtances, with moors and waſhes interſperſed.

The pariſh of Ormſkirk contains the townſhips of *Ormſkirk*, *Burſcough*, *Lathom*, *Scariſbrick*, and *Bickerſtaff* with *Skelmerſdale*. In the ſandy loams of theſe diſtricts carrots are ſucceſsfully cultivated for the ſupply of the Liverpool market. The gardeners about Ormſkirk are likewiſe famous for their culture of early potatoes.

Burſcough Priory was founded in the reign of Richard I. by Robert Fitzhenry, lord of Lathom. At the time of the diſſolution it maintained a prior and five canons of the Auguſtine order, and forty ſervants. Nothing is left of the pile but part of the centre arch of the church. Inſtead of its magnificent tombs of the Stanleys before the reformation, a few modern grave-ſtones peep through the graſs, the memorials of poor catholics, who ſtill prefer this burial place.

Lathom-houſe, a magnificent edifice built by Sir Thomas Bootle, knight, chancellor to Frederick, late Prince of Wales, is the preſent ſeat of Richard Wilbraham Bootle, Eſq. The houſe conſiſts of a ground-floor, principal and attic, and has a ruſtic baſement, with a double flight of ſteps to the firſt ſtory. It is built of ſtone, after a plan of Leoni's. The front extends 156 feet by 75, and has nine windows on each floor. The offices are joined to it by two corridors ſupported by Ionic pillars. It contains, among other good apartments, a hall of forty feet by forty, and thirty-eight high. The back front was begun by William earl of Derby. The houſe is ſituated in the centre of a park five miles round, commanding an extenſive but unintereſting view towards the north.

The

The ancient celebrated houſe of Lathom ſtood between the north-eaſt offices of the preſent edifice, and the kitchen-garden. It originally belonged, with great ſurrounding property, to the family of Lathoms, from whom it came in 1369 to the Stanleys. The ſiege which it underwent from the Parliament forces in 1644 and 1645, and its gallant defence by the famous counteſs of Derby, Charlotte de la Tremouille, are events well known in the hiſtory of our unfortunate civil wars. It returned into the poſſeſſion of the Stanley family after the Reſtoration, and was inhabited within the preſent century. The houſe and this part of the eſtate were transferred in 1714, by marriage, to lord Aſhburnham. He ſold it to a Mr. Furneſs, who parted with it to Sir Thomas Bootle. His neice and heireſs married the preſent owner, then Richard Wilbraham, Eſq. of Rode-hall, Cheſhire. Near the houſe is a ſmall chapel and ſome alms-houſes, founded by one of the Stanleys. A chaplain belongs to them, who bears the name of Almoner of Latham.

Scariſbrick-hall is at preſent occupied by Thomas Eccleſton, Eſq. a gentleman to whoſe ſpirited improvements in agriculture and the breeding of ſtock, the neighbourhood is greatly indebted. For his exertions in the draining and improvement of *Martin-Meer*, he obtained the gold medal of the *Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce*. His account of that great work, communicated to the ſame ſociety in 1786, and publiſhed in the ſeventh volume of their *Tranſactions*, is ſo inſtructive, that we cannot more uſefully employ a few pages than in reprinting it.

" Martin-Meer was formerly a large pool, or lake of freſh water, of an irregular form, ſurrounded chiefly by moſſes or boggy land, containing near one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventeen acres, of

of eight yards to the pole, which is the cuſtomary meaſure of the neighbourhood, (about three thouſand ſix hundred and thirty-two ſtatute acres.) It lies in the different manors of Scariſbrick, Burſcough, North-Meols, Tarleton, and Rufford.

" About the year 1692, Mr. Fleetwood, of Bank Hall, propoſed to the ſeveral other proprietors to drain Martin-Meer, on condition that a leaſe (for the whole) of three lives and thirty-one years ſhould be granted him, which they agreed to; and Mr. Fleetwood obtained an act of parliament the ſame year to empower him to effect it. The following year he began the work: his plan was, to diſcharge the waters immediately into the ſea, at the mouth of the river Ribble, which before had forced themſelves a paſſage into the river Douglas, when the Meer waters were raiſed above their uſual height by the land floods, as is noted by Camden in his *Britannia*.

" The intermediate ground between Martin-Meer and the Douglas, lying conſiderably higher than the Meer, occaſioned the ſtagnation, and kept it continually full.

" Mr. Fleetwood began the undertaking by making a canal, or ſluice, twenty-four feet wide, of a depth ſufficiently lower than the Meer, which he cut from the Ribble mouth through an embanked ſalt marſh, and then through a moſs or bog in North Meols, about a mile and a half in length; and he continued it through the loweſt parts of the Meer. To prevent the ſea from ruſhing up the canal, and overflowing the Meer, which lies ten feet lower than high-water mark at the ſpring tides, he erected in his canal, near the ſea, a pair of flood-gates, which ſhut when the ſea waters roſe higher than thoſe in the canal, and opened again

again by the ſluice ſtream when the ſea retired. In this place, the mouth of the Ribble is nearly five miles over at the ſpring tides; but the bed of the river at low water is no more than a furlong in breadth, and it lies under the Lytham, or oppoſite ſhore to the flood-gates, about the diſtance of four miles from them. This is a very unfavourable circumſtance to the draining of the Meer, as it greatly diminiſhes the effect of the out-fall by the length of the way the waters have to run over a very flat, looſe, flying, ſandy coaſt, before they can diſembogue into the river. Theſe ſands in a few years after the drainage was finiſhed, drifting by the winds into the out-fall ſluice, ſoon obſtructed the flow of the waters, and in a ſhort time choaked up the paſſage, which had been made ſufficiently deep to carry them off.

"The ſpring tides in boiſterous weather brought up great quantities of mud to the flood-gates; here it lodged in ſediment for want of a powerful current in dry ſeaſons to waſh it away: thus the wiſhed-for effect of ſo much labour was fruſtrated, for the Meer was once more nearly reduced into its primitive ſtate. In order to remove this deſtructive obſtacle of mud and ſand, the managers for Mr. Fleetwood, in the year 1714, thought it moſt adviſeable to raiſe the ſill or threſhold of the flood-gates, which they elevated twenty inches: this, with ſome other meaſures then adopted, did, for ſome time, enable them to keep the flood-gates free from the above-mentioned obſtructions.

"But it proved very detrimental; for ſo much fall was loſt, that the arable and meadow grounds upon the Meer diminiſhed greatly in value, by the water remaining upon them all the winter, and very late oftentimes in the ſpring ſeaſon.

"By

" By a gradual, continual loſs of out-fall amongſt the ſands, and by the ſluice on the marſh and other parts wrecking up, the Meer lands for many years were only made uſe of as a poor, fenny, watery paſture for the cattle of the neighbourhood, and that for a part of the ſummer months only.

" Some time after, Mr. Fleetwood's executors continued their ſluice farther upon the ſhore, and erected a new pair of flood-gates, winged with ſtone walls, conſiderably nearer to the out-fall, and they found great benefit from it, as the gates were much leſs liable to be obſtructed by the ſand and mud brought up with the tide.

" About the year 1750 Mr. Fleetwood's leaſe expired; and in 1755 the flood-gates and walls were waſhed down by a very uncommon high tide, but were rebuilt (fourteen feet wide) at the joint expence of the proprietors, in whoſe hands it remained in a neglected ſtate for many years; for, as before, from inattention to the cleanſing of the ſluice, and from the narrow paſſage at the flood-gates, which were ſtill liable to be choaked with mud, &c. and much of the out-fall being loſt, the lands upon the Meer became again of little value, being covered with water all the winter, and liable to be flooded by very trivial ſummer rains. In this condition the beſt Meer lands let for a few ſhillings the large acre only.

" In the year 1778 I ſettled here; and as the moſt extenſive and valuable wear of the Meer belonged to this eſtate, I had the levels taken from low-water mark; and finding a conſiderable fall, I had recourſe to Mr. Gilbert, of Worſeley (who had judiciouſly planned, and happily executed the aſtoniſhing works of his grace the duke of Bridgewater.)

To

To his friendſhip and abilities I am indebted for the ſucceſs of the drainage; for, after the moſt minute inſpection, he gave me every encouragement, and kindly aſſiſted me in directing the undertaking. By his advice I applied to the other four proprietors of Martin-Meer for a leaſe for the term of three lives for their ſeveral ſhares, and opened to them my intention of effectually draining the whole at my own expence. In 1751 I obtained the leaſes from all the proprietors (one only excepted,) and immediately began the work.

" The plan Mr. Gilbert ſtruck out, which I have executed, was to have in the main ſluice three different pair of flood-gates. The firſt are to keep the ſea out, which are called the Sea-gates. The ſecond pair are erected at about half a mile diſtance nearer to the Meer, to ſtop the ſea there, in caſe any accident ſhould happen to the firſt: theſe are termed the Stop-gates. The third pair are built cloſe to, and in the ſame walls with the Sea-gates, but open and ſhut in a contrary direction to them: theſe are named the Fluſhing-gates. All theſe three flood-gates are kept open, to give a free paſſage to the waters from the Meer, when the tide has ſufficiently retired; and when the tide riſes again above the level of the waters on the Meer, the ſea-gates are ſhut. In dry ſeaſons, when a ſufficient quantity of water does not come down from the Meer, to keep the out-fall ſluice open acroſs the looſe flying ſands on the ſhore, the tide itſelf is permitted to flow up the ſluice to the ſtop-gates, which are then ſhut; and at high water the fluſhing-gates are cloſed to keep the ſea water in.

" N. B. All theſe three ſeveral gates have four paddles at the bottom, three feet in length, and two feet in depth, which are drawn up by

by ſcrews, to fluſh away any obſtacle that may chance to impede their working.

" At low water the paddles of the fluſhing-gates are drawn up, and the retained ſea-water ruſhes out with ſo much violence, that the ſluice to low water is in a very ſhort time cleanſed from every obſtruction, ſand, mud, &c. that may have been brought up by the tide.

" Thus, by the great ſkill and ſuperior ingenuity of one man (Mr. Gilbert,) the great obſtacle to the perfect drainage of Martin-Meer is done away, which had baffled the many vain efforts of the proprietors for almoſt a century.

" By an accurate examination of the out-fall, Mr. Gilbert found it would admit of the ſill or threſhold of the new gates being laid five inches lower than it formerly had been; and he recommended the ſea-gates to be advanced about two hundred yards nearer to the out-fall upon the open marſh. To prevent the ſea flowing into the ſluice behind theſe gates, large and ſtrong banks are thrown up on each ſide, which are continued to the ſtop-gates; and at the ſame time they anſwer another eſſential purpoſe, viz. by containing a larger quantity of ſea-water to fluſh with.

" The new ſea-gates are eighteen feet wide, and nineteen feet and a half high, and the ſill five feet lower than the former: this makes the paſſage in rainy ſeaſons, when the water would have run four feet upon the old ſill, to bear the proportion of one hundred and ſixty-two feet in the preſent gates, to fifty-ſix in the old ones.

" When

" When we had ſunk to the proper depth of the foundations of the new gates, we found a quickſand, and built upon it. The walls are twelve bricks in thickneſs at the bottom, and there is no ſettlement, nor have they ſunk in the leaſt.—N. B. Large flat ſtones were laid under the brick and ſtone work, and were the only precaution uſed.

" Whilſt the gates were building, I employed all the hands I could procure in deepening and widening the ſluice upon a dead level with the ſill up to the Meer, ſix yards wide at the bottom, allowing a foot and a half ſlope to every foot in elevation. In ſome places the cutting was near twenty feet deep; and at the depth of ſixteen feet in ſand, I found an entire trunk of a tree, which ſquared a foot.

" In April 1783 the level was carried up completely to the Meer, which then (owing to the waters having been dammed up,) was flooded higher than it had been for ſeveral years. As ſoon as the dam-head was cut, the ſuperior efficacy of the new works appeared, and this uncommon flood ran off in five days, which would have required as many weeks to have been diſcharged through the old flood-gates.

" After the waters had run off, the ſluice was deepened nearly to the ſame level through the loweſt parts of the Meer. The ſluice is nearly five miles in length from the ſea-gates.

" The ditches were next attended to; and ſince the drainage, above a hundred miles in length have been perfected; but as ſmall open drains were neceſſary to carry off the rain-water into the ditches, I procured a draining or guttering plough, on Mr. Cuthbert Clark's conſtruction, which

was

was drawn by eight, ſometimes ten able horſes, and which I can with certainty recommend as a moſt uſeful implement in all fenny countries.

" I am greatly indebted to the inventor; for with this, in one day, I cut drains nearly eight miles in length, thirteen inches in depth, twenty inches wide at the top, and five at the bottom, more perfect than could have been done in that land by the hand, and which would have coſt, if done by hand, ſeven pounds five ſhillings and ten pence.

" The ſummer in 1783 was employed wholly as above, in laying the land dry. In the year 1784 ſome few acres were ploughed, and yielded a tolerable crop of ſpring corn; ſome yielded a very inferior kind of hay: the reſt was paſtured. Early the laſt year I prepared for oats and barley, and ploughed nearly two hundred large acres.

" The effects of the drainage appear from the crops; for I have ſold barley for eleven pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ſix-pence the large acre, the produce of the land which before let at no more than four ſhillings the acre; and oats at ten pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ſix-pence per acre, off land, which would bring no price before; the purchaſer to cut, carry off, &c. all at his own expence.

" From the lands which before afforded a very poor paſture in the drieſt ſummers, I laſt year fed ſeveral head of Scotch cattle, which did better than any that were fattened upon the beſt grazing lands in our neighbourhood. The beſt meadow lands in the moſt favourable ſeaſons did not let for more than about nine ſhillings per acre.

" Laſt

" Laſt year I mowed many acres, worth three pounds, and let off ſeveral of inferior graſs, at two pounds per acre, reſerving the after-graſs for my own cattle."

A ſubſequent account, communicated by Mr. Eccleſton in 1789, begins with informing the Society of various loſſes ſuſtained in conſequence of the failure of the banks of the river Douglas, and of the Leeds and Liverpool canal, which inundated the drained lands of the Meer, and cauſed much damage. In the mean time, the works erected for the drainage itſelf had fully anſwered expectation, and had not failed in a ſingle inſtance. From theſe accidents, however, Mr. Eccleſton was induced to adopt the grazing rather than the tillage line. He found graſs-ſeeds and rape mixed, a very uſeful crop in keeping his lambs; and flax ſucceeded well, being fit to pull earlier than any danger can raiſe from the autumnal floods. Good roads over ſome of the ſofteſt parts of the Meer, for ſeveral miles, have been made by means of faggots covered a conſiderable thickneſs with ſand. Of all ſtock, horſes have been found to anſwer beſt on the natural coarſe graſs and weeds on the ſofteſt lands; on which account he has greatly increaſed his breed of thoſe animals, of the coach kind. Lambs while on the ewe improve greatly on the Meer, but the ewes themſelves get out of condition, and old ſheep are very ſubject to the rot. Black cattle have not ſucceeded well, great numbers of calves having been taken off by a diſeaſe here called the *hyon*.

LYDIATE.

THIS is a townſhip in the pariſh of Halſall. It is chiefly remarkable for a ruined edifice, formerly a chapel of eaſe to Halſall church. It is a ſmall,

a ſmall, but moſt beautiful building, having a tower ſteeple, with pinnacles and battlements, venerably overgrown with ivy. Over the door are the letters L. I. for Lawrence Ireland, probably the founder, of the family of Irelands of Lydiate-hall. The preſent owner is Henry Blundell, Eſq. of Ince.

SEPHTON PARISH.

SEPHTON pariſh contains the townſhips of *Sephton*, *Netherton*, and *Lunt*, *Ince Blundell* and *Little Croſby*, *Thornton* and *Great Croſby*, *Litherland*, *Aynttreee*, *Orrell*, and *Ford*. The farms in this neighbourhood are for the moſt part ſmall, few riſing to £.100 per annum. The country is moſtly divided into very ſmall tenements or leaſeholds granted for three lives. As a proof of their ſmallneſs, the late Henry Blundell, Eſq. of Ince, had in Formby, Aynſdale, and Birkdale, 230 ſuch tenements, conſiſting of about 1300 Lancaſhire acres. This mode of letting is diſadvantageous to the landlord, whoſe rents and fines amount to a ſmall proportion of the real value, but ſeems to have had a good effect on the country, by filling it with inhabitants and comfortable buildings, and cauſing ſeveral branches of manufacture to be ſet up. For theſe leaſehold tenants conſider themſelves as better than the common ſmall farmers, and are above going to ſervice or day labour; in conſequence of which the men betake themſelves to ſome trade or buſineſs, and the women to ſpinning cotton, which cauſes their living and dreſſing better, and the conſequent greater conſumption of articles of proviſion and cloathing. Few landlords, however, now chuſe to renew the old way of leaſing.

The

The ſea-ſhore all along this coaſt is remarkable for its flatneſs and number of large ſand banks, highly dangerous to ſhipping in ſtrong weſterly winds, which are very prevalent here. The ſea is ſuppoſed to abound with fiſh, but few are taken, and thoſe only with hook and line, the fiſhermen either not poſſeſſing boats to go out to ſea, or not chuſing to truſt themſelves on ſuch a boiſterous coaſt. The kinds taken are chiefly cod, ray or ſkaite, and flounders. The ſhore is protected by a barrier of ſand hills, held together by the *ſtar* or ſea-reed, the roots of which penetrate deep into the ſands, and offer a fixed point round which they may collect. This ſtar is uſeful for making mats, beſoms, thatch, &c. but the law is very ſtrict with regard to cutting it, ſince when it is deſtroyed, the hills are preſently blown away, and the lands behind overwhelmed by a moving ſand. Theſe hills are in ſome places half a mile broad, with ſeveral large openings or flats of land between them; and when in the midſt of them, no deſarts of Arabia can appear more dreary. There is little or no timber growing on the coaſt; and a perſon, from obſerving that all the trees to a great diſtance up the country are, as it were, ſhorn on the weſt ſide, and bent the oppoſite way, would be apt to conclude that none would grow; yet it is certain that the country was once very woody, for in the moſs lands, large quantities of oaks are often found within a foot or two of the ſurface, lying with their heads all one way, as if blown over by a violent weſt wind, or overthrown by a ſudden irruption of the ſea. A gentleman in this pariſh got up near fifty loads out of one field, the wood moſtly ordinary, and fit only for fuel. Sometimes trees of value are met with. The wood is uſually dark-coloured and of little durability, though often uſed for poſts and fencing. Many of the moſs lands are ſo full of it that they are with difficulty ploughed. Along the ſea-ſhore, and near the Grange land-mark, are the ſtumps of ſeveral large trees, which, by being

being in a line and at equal diſtances, were undoubtedly planted: whence it would ſeem as if formerly either the climate was not ſo rough, or the ſea did not advance ſo far, ſince there would now be no poſſibility of raiſing trees in the ſame ſituation. It appears, however, as if the ſea had formerly overrun a good deal of this country, from the ſtrata of ſea-ſlutch, moſs, ſand, and ſhells found in various parts; and the ſea now again ſeems retiring.

The village of *Sephton* is placed on a range of fine meadows that reach almoſt to the ſea, and in great meaſure ſupply Liverpool with its hay. It is watered by the *Alt*, a ſmall trout ſtream which empties into the ſea near Formby, but for want of ſufficient fall to carry off its waters, its banks remain inundated the whole ſeaſon after the firſt winter floods. Sephton is a rectory. The church is a large and handſome edifice, conſiſting of a body and two aiſles, battlemented and crenellated. The ſteeple is an elegant ſpire. The preſent church was built in the time of Henry VIII., as is ſaid, by Anthony Molyneux, its rector, a celebrated preacher, and diſtinguiſhed for acts of piety. The chancel is divided by a ſcreen from the body, and contains ſixteen ſtalls of elegant ſculpture. The family of Molyneux had their ancient ſeat in this town, where their Norman anceſtor, William de Moulins, ſettled on the grant made him by Roger de Poictiers. In the chancel of the church has been for many ages the burying-place of this race, of many of whom monumental memorials are ſtill preſerved. One of theſe records Sir Richard Molyneux, who diſtinguiſhed himſelf in the battle of Agincourt, and was knighted by Henry V.; another, Sir William, who was in three actions againſt the Scots in Henry VIII.'s time, and in that of Floddon, with his own hand took three banners, for which ſervice he was thanked by

by a letter under Henry's own ſeal. The Lancaſhire archers greatly contributed to this victory.

A chapel on the north ſide of the chancel contains ſeveral modern monuments of the Molyneux family. There is in the church another chapel, belonging to the ancient family of Blundells, of Ince-Blundell.

Litherland in the pariſh of Sephton is a manor belonging to the Molyneux family, which had an old hall, now demoliſhed, but the extent of which may yet be traced by the ruins. The family ſeat is now removed to Croxteth.

WALTON PARISH.

THIS is a large pariſh, adjoining on the north to Liverpool, which town it formerly included. The living is a very valuable rectory, containing, beſides the pariſh church, five chapels of eaſe. The church, ſeated upon a fine eminence, is a ſea-mark, and its ſituation affords a very extenſive proſpect in all directions. The pariſh of Walton includes the townſhip of Toxteth-park, Derby, Croxteth-park, Kirkby, Simon's-wood, Walton, Bootle, Everton, Kirkdale, Fazakerly, Formby, Anſdell, Ravers-meals, and Linacre. There was an ancient family of the Waltons of Walton. The laſt of the name, who owned all the lands in Walton, left three daughters, co-heireſſes. By one of them, a third part paſſed to the family of Fazakerly, in which it continued till ſold to the late James earl of Derby. Another part went to the Chorleys, of Chorley, but being forfeited in the rebellion of 1715, it was purchaſed by Mr. Crompton and others. The other third went to the family of Hoghton, of Hoghton-tower by the deſcendants of which, moſt of the eſtate was ſold to Mr. Atherton.

Bootle

Bootle lies near the ſea, on a very ſandy ſoil, and contains ſome good houſes. A very copious ſpring of ſoft, pure water riſes near it, which turns a mill about half a mile below, and ſoon after falls into the ſea at Bootle-bay.

Linacre, a pretty rural village, is a member of the manor of Bootle, and lies adjacent to the ſea.

Kirkdale, in the ſame manor, to the ſouth of Bootle, is a pleaſant village, agreeably ſeated on the declivity of a hill. It was part of the eſtate of the family of More, or de la More, who eſtabliſhed themſelves here about the year 1280, and built More-hall near Liverpool. They alſo built Bank-hall, ſituate in Kirkdale, near the ſea, which was a curious ſpecimen of ancient architecture, with many relics of family antiquities, but all demoliſhed twenty or thirty years ſince.

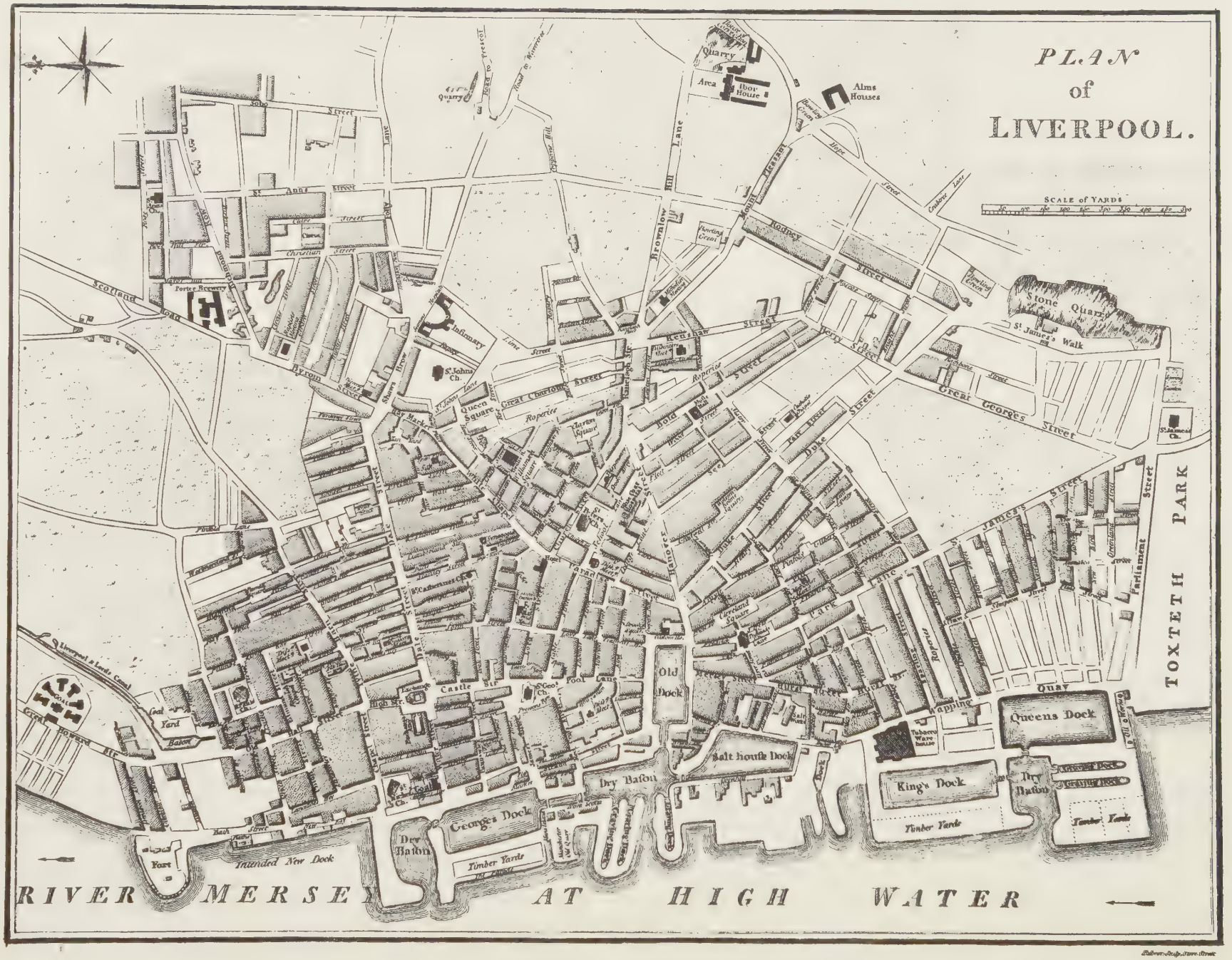
Weſt Derby and *Everton* belong to the earl of Derby, under whom they are held by copyholders paying fixed rents and fines. The latter place is now joined to Liverpool by new buildings.

Croxteth-hall, the ſeat of the earl of Sefton, was rebuilt by William lord Molyneux, grandfather to the preſent earl.

CHILDWALL PARISH.

THIS lies ſouth-eaſt of Liverpool It is very extenſive, and includes Hale, Speke, Garſton, Wavertree, Allerton, and Great and Little Woolton. Its living is a vicarage, containing two chapelries.

In



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In the manor of *Speke* is a hall, where are ſeveral remains of antiquity, particularly a curious piece of wainſcot, brought by Sir Edward Norris from the library of the king of Scotland, after the battle of Flodden-field.

In *Garſton* is an ancient houſe, called *Aighburgh-hall*, formerly a ſeat belonging to the Tarleton family.

Woolton-hall is a noble manſion, purchaſed from the Molyneux family by Nicholas Aſhton, Eſq. who has made large additions to it. It is placed on an eminence, and commands a fine and extenſive proſpect.

All the villages in the vicinity of Liverpool are filled with the country ſeats and places of retirement of the merchants and other inhabitants of Liverpool, which give an air of cheerfulneſs and culture to a tract of country, not of itſelf much favoured by ſoil or climate.

LIVERPOOL.

THE great ſea-port of Liverpool, the other eye of Lancaſhire, bears ſo important a relation to the ſyſtem of commerce which we have traced from Mancheſter through the ſurrounding country, and is, beſides, ſo diſtinguiſhed an object in the maritime hiſtory of this kingdom, that we ſhould do injuſtice to our plan not to beſtow on it a large ſhare of attention. Our labours are abridged by the elegant and valuable Eſſay towards its Hiſtory, publiſhed by Dr. Enfield, partly from papers

papers left by Mr. George Perry, and partly from original materials. As far as this work comes down (which is to the year 1772) we ſhall not ſcruple to make uſe of its authorities, which are drawn from the beſt ſources. For later periods we ſhall truſt to the reſults of our own inquiries.

The river Merſey, having held nearly a weſtern courſe till within a few miles of its termination, makes a ſudden bend to the north, and at length enters the ſea by a channel forming almoſt a continued line with the coaſt of Lancaſhire. On the eaſtern ſide of this channel, about three miles within the mouth of the river, at a place where the channel is moſt contracted, Liverpool is ſituated. It is proper here to obſerve, that it appears from Leland, that in his time, the whole broad eſtuary of the Merſey turning from Runcorn to the ſea, was commonly called *Lyrpoole*, (as, indeed, the termination *pool* properly denotes a detached or encloſed piece of water;) whence it would ſeem, that the town was originally named from its ſituation, as being, probably, the moſt remarkable collection of buildings belonging to this *pool* or *haven*.

The quantity of water running down the Merſey being ſmall in proportion to its breadth, its fitneſs for a haven depends ſolely upon the tides. At Liverpool, the water, at ſpring tides, riſes to the height of about thirty feet, and in neap tides of about fifteen feet. This great body of water, ruſhing up the bed of the river, cauſes, at the narrow parts of the channel, a head ſimilar to that of the *hygre* in the rivers of the Briſtol channel. The breadth of the channel of the Merſey oppoſite Liverpool, at its moſt contracted part, is 1200 yards at high water, but it ſoon widens both above and below.

The

The firſt exiſtence of a town in this ſpot is traced by Cambden to the time of William the Conqueror, when Roger of Poictiers, lord of the Honour of Lancaſter, built a caſtle here. Charters were granted to the town in 1129 by Henry I., in 1203 by John, and in 1227 by Henry III. In the laſt of theſe it was conſtituted a perpetual corporation and free borough, with a merchant guild and other liberties. About the year 1360, in the reign of Edward III. the caſtle of Liverpool was the property of Sir Thomas Latham, of Latham, who preſented it, with ſeveral other houſes and certain portions of land in Liverpool, to Sir John Stanley, who had married Iſabel his only daughter and the heireſs of Latham. Sir John, upon this, during his government of Ireland, built here a ſpacious houſe, and obtained leave of Henry IV. to embattle it. He called the whole ſtructure *the tower*, by which name it was known as long as it continued ſtanding.

From this time nothing occurs reſpecting the hiſtory of Liverpool, except the confirmation of its charters and enlargement of its privileges by ſeveral ſucceſſive kings, till the time of Leland's tour through the kingdom at the beginning of the ſixteenth century. His deſcription of it (diveſted of ancient language) is as follows: "Lyrpole, alias Lyverpoole, is a paved town, having only a chapel; its pariſh church being Walton, four miles diſtant, near the ſea. The king has a caſtelet, and the earl of Derby a ſtone-houſe in it. Iriſh merchants reſort thither as to a good haven, and much Iriſh yarn bought by Mancheſter men, and other merchandize, is ſold there. The cuſtoms paid at Liverpool are ſmall, which cauſes the reſort of merchants." Either, however, the town underwent a ſubſequent decline, or the trade was carried on little to the advantage of the inhabitants; for it appears, that in 1565 there were in Liverpool only 138 houſeholders and cottagers, and all the ſhipping

ping of the place conſiſted of ten barks (the largeſt of forty tons burthen) and two boats, the whole making 223 tons, and navigated by ſeventy-five men: and at Wallaſey, a creek oppoſite, were three barks and boats, making thirty-ſix tons, and navigated by fourteen men. That it *had* undergone a decay may probably, though not certainly, be inferred from the language of a petition ſent up by the inhabitants to queen Elizabeth, in 1571, praying to be relieved from a ſubſidy, in which it is ſtyled her Majeſty's poor *decayed* town of Liverpool.

From this period to that of the civil wars, the increaſe of its population and trade could not be very conſiderable, ſince we find no mention of the place worthy of being recorded; yet it muſt have received ſome augmentation, as it was able to undergo a briſk ſiege of a month's continuance from prince Rupert in 1644. It was ſtrongly garriſoned by the Parliament, and fortified with a mud wall and ditch, defended by batteries on the land ſide; and beſides its caſtle, which was furniſhed with many cannon, and commanded the river and country round, a fort of eight guns was erected on the river's ſide. It was at length taken, through negligence or treachery, and ſome execution was done by the Prince's troops on entering it. Not long after, however, it was re-poſſeſſed by the Parliament's forces, and colonel Birch was appointed governor. The importance of the town probably depended chiefly on its being a ready tranſit to Ireland. At this, and at former periods, the family of More at Bank-hall appear to have been leading perſons at Liverpool.

It was not till the end of the century, that Liverpool became conſiderable enough to be emancipated from its parochial dependence on Walton, and to be made a diſtinct pariſh. In the year 1699 the act for this purpoſe

purpoſe paſſed, by which alſo, the corporation was empowered to build a new church, in addition to the former parochial chapel, and it was provided, that two rectors ſhould be appointed, one for each, who ſhould jointly poſſeſs all rectorial rights within the town of Liverpool. The patronage of the rectory was veſted in the mayor, aldermen, and common council for the time being. The old parochial chapel was the church of St. Nicholas; the new one, that of St. Peter. The regiſters of marriages, chriſtenings, and burials, to the commencement of the preſent century, give the following numbers:

Year.	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Year.	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.
1624	4	35	21	1680	3	108	51
1662	5	30	30	1690	10	120	151
1670	5	67	48	1700	34	131	125

The ſmall proportion of marriages in the earlier periods, and their ſudden increaſe in the laſt, muſt be attributed to the difference in the parochial juriſdiction of the town. From theſe liſts it would appear, that even in the firſt year of this century, Liverpool did not poſſeſs a population of more than about 4240 perſons.*

In 1710, the increaſe of trade had ſuggeſted the neceſſity of a dock, and an act paſſed for the purpoſe of empowering the town to conſtruct one. Before this time, the ſhips muſt have lain in the open channel oppoſite the town, as there is no natural creek or inlet from it. About this period, the number of the ſhips belonging to the port was eighty-

* It is ſtated in the *Hiſtory of Liverpool* at 5714; but by following the rule of multiplication there laid down, and making the proportional allowance for non-regiſtered births, the reſult is no more than we have given.

four,

four, averaging ſomewhat leſs than ſeventy tons burthen each, and navigated by eleven men at a medium. The port was, however, frequented by above three times that number of ſhips belonging to other places. As the Iriſh trade was the original branch of the Liverpool commerce, ſo it continued to be the principal one; and the decline of the port of Cheſter, with the increaſed traffic between the two kingdoms, gave great vigour to this intercourſe. Many natives of Ireland ſucceſſively ſettled in Liverpool for the purpoſe of carrying on their commercial plans, and laid the foundation of ſome of the principal mercantile houſes in it. They likewiſe contributed much to form the local character and manners of the town, which have conſiderably differed from thoſe of the inland towns of Lancaſhire, as well as of other ſea-ports. The relative ſituation of the Iſle of Man with reſpect to Liverpool, cauſed the greateſt part of its trade alſo to center in this port. The importation of iron, timber, hemp, flax, and naval ſtores, from the northern countries of Europe, muſt have been an early branch of buſineſs at a thriving port, connected with a country rapidly increaſing in buildings and manufactures. And as opulence and elegance of living gained ground, the ſupply of wine, fruits, and other articles from the ſouth of Europe, would naturally be ſought for by a direct importation from thoſe parts, inſtead of the circuitous medium of London or Briſtol.

We have not been able to obtain any documents concerning the commencement of the Weſt India trade in Liverpool; but as a ſmall veſſel is ſaid to have ſailed for Africa in the year 1709, it may be preſumed that ſome portion of the direct traffic to the Weſt Indies exiſted as early as that period.

The

The ſupply of Liverpool with water was now thought a matter of importance; and an act paſſed in the ſame year with the dock act, for enabling the corporation to make a grant to Sir Oleave Moore, Bart. for liberty to bring freſh water into the town. This uſeful ſcheme, however, for want of money, or ſome other circumſtances, was never put in execution.

It was in 1709 that the ſpirit of charity, a general attendant upon commercial proſperity, began to make its appearance at Liverpool in the inſtitution of the Blue-coat Hoſpital, firſt called the Charity-ſchool. A ſmall building, now part of the free-ſchool, was erected by benefactions, and forty boys and ten girls were provided with cloaths and inſtruction by an annual ſubſcription of about £.30, and £.20 out of the ſacrament money. In 1714, Bryan Blundell, Eſq. a liberal contributor to this charity, became its chief manager. He ſet on foot a ſubſcription for a building in which the children might live together under proper diſcipline and provided with all neceſſaries, generouſly ſetting the example by a large benefaction of his own; the building was begun in 1716, and completed in 1726, at the expence of upwards of £.2000. It then received ſixty children, who were taught to work in the ſchool, and employed in ſpinning cotton.

To proceed with the gradual increaſe of the town, we ſhall remark, that in 1715 an act was obtained for the building of a third church, upon the ſite of the old caſtle. It was not, however, completely finiſhed and conſecrated till 1734. This is St. George's church, a large and handſome building, fitted up with peculiar elegance on the inſide. It is the corporation-chapel, at which the mayor, aldermen, and common-council uſually attend.

The

The number of inhabitants in 1720 is computed at 10,446, conſiderably above double that in the firſt year of the century. In the ſame year, an act paſſed for making navigable the rivers Merſey and Irwell as far as Mancheſter; the firſt of thoſe ſchemes for internal navigation in Lancaſhire, which have ſince multiplied to ſuch a degree, to the benefit of the whole country, and eſpecially of Liverpool, the great centre of its export and import trade.

The ſame year, 1720, likewiſe gave riſe to a ſtill more important deſign of water-communication, which was that by means of the river Weaver, with Northwich and Winsford-bridge. The great utility derived to the trade of Liverpool from the inexhauſtible quantity of ſalt brought down from theſe places, has already been noticed, and ſome particulars of this branch of commerce will hereafter be given under the head of Northwich. But although the act paſſed this year, it was not till a conſiderable time afterwards that its purpoſes were fully brought into effect.

About the ſame time, attention was paid to the improvement of its communications by land, and the roads to Preſcott and other parts were enlarged and repaired by the aid of turnpikes.

In the year 1730 the number of people exceeded 12,000. This is the firſt year in which we find an account of ſhips ſailing to Africa, the ſingle ſloop in 1703 excepted. Concerning the ſlave trade, for which Liverpool has ſince become ſo peculiarly diſtinguiſhed, it is difficult to ſpeak with the coolneſs of diſcuſſion that belongs to commercial topics in general. On the one hand, it has been warmly arraigned by the friends of juſtice and humanity, and, indeed, by the common feelings of the unintereſted part of mankind; on the other hand, it has been as warmly defended

fended by thoſe who are ardent in the purſuit of every extenſion of individual and national wealth. To conſider only its *commercial* effects upon this place, we may ſay, that it has coincided with that ſpirit of bold adventure which has characteriſed the trade of Liverpool, and rapidly carried it to its preſent ſtate of proſperity; has occaſioned vaſt employment for ſhipping and ſailors, and greatly augmented the demand for the manufactures of the country. Some, however, are of opinion that it has puſhed this adventurous ſpirit beyond all due bounds; has introduced pernicious maxims and cuſtoms of tranſacting buſineſs; has diverted to itſelf the capital and attention which might have been better employed on other objects, and has occaſioned a great waſte of lives among the ſeamen. Meantime, its being ſtill an object in which the town regards its intereſts as deeply involved, ſeems a ſufficient proof that its benefits, in a commercial view, have at this port apparently exceeded its miſchiefs.

An act had paſſed in 1717 for enlarging the time granted by the firſt dock act, which contained powers for making an additional dock and building a pier in the open harbour, and for enlightening the ſaid dock; and in 1738 another act paſſed for enlarging the time of the laſt act; whence it may be concluded, that its purpoſes as to the making of the ſecond dock were not yet completed. It was probably for the want of theſe conveniences, that the tonnage of ſhips entering inwards was no greater in the year 1737 than it had been in 1716; but after this period, the increaſe became rapid. The augmentation of inhabitants was proportional; for in 1740, they were by computation more than 18,000.

About the year 1745, a ſubſcription was opened at Liverpool for the eſtabliſhment of one of thoſe excellent charities, an infirmary. The work was begun the ſame year; but owing to the national diſturbances

at

at that period, its completion was retarded, ſo that the houſe did not open for the reception of patients till 1749. This, however, was earlier than the date of the greater part of thoſe inſtitutions of the like kind, with which ſo many of our provincial towns are now honoured.

At the ſame period (that of the laſt rebellion) the town of Liverpool diſplayed its conſequence, and its attachment to the preſent royal family, in a very ſpirited manner. A regiment of foot, called the Liverpool Blues, was raiſed in the town, conſiſting of eight companies of ſeventy men each, with proper officers, &c. They continued in pay about fifteen weeks, during eight of which they were under marching orders, and were at the taking of Carliſle, where they were reviewed by the duke of Cumberland. The whole expence of this armament amounted to £.4859, of which the corporation contributed £.2000, and the town raiſed the reſt. Beſides this regiment, five companies of volunteers, conſiſting of ſixty men each, excluſive of officers, were raiſed in the town, and inſtructed in the military exerciſe: one of which kept guard nightly while the diſturbances of the kingdom laſted. Though Liverpool was then only in its early youth, few towns in England were probably capable of a ſimilar exertion.

In 1749 an act paſſed for building another church in Liverpool, and for lighting and cleanſing the ſtreets. The church was St. Thomas's, conſecrated the next year, and diſtinguiſhed by the ſimple beauty of a lofty and elegant ſpire.

An inſtitution of peculiar uſe, the deſign of which was formed in 1747, was carried into execution in 1752. This was an hoſpital for decayed ſeamen, their widows and children, ſupported by a monthly contri-

contribution of ſixpence, which every ſeaman from this port is obliged to pay out of his wages. The building forms the wings of the infirmary; it coſt £.1500 The buſineſs of the inſtitution is conducted by a committee choſen annually.

An act for the more ſpeedy recovery of ſmall debts in the town and its liberties, ſimilar to what has been found neceſſary in all populous and trading towns, paſſed in 1753.

The internal water-communications of Liverpool were increaſed by the Sankey canal, the act for which paſſed in 1755, and which for many years after continued to improve in the facility and extent of its navigation. It afforded from the firſt a new ſupply of coals to Liverpool, and by the works ſince eſtabliſhed upon it, has in various ways added to the buſineſs of this port.

By the year 1760, the population of Liverpool had reached, by computation, 25,787 ſouls, and the tonnage of the ſhipping belonging to its port was above four times that of the year 1709. It was provided with a convenient cuſtom-houſe, a large and handſome exchange, a neat playhouſe, and all the other uſeful and ornamental ſtructures belonging to a wealthy commercial town. In 1762, ſuch was the preſent ſtate and future proſpects of the town, that an act was obtained for building two new churches at once, and alſo for making an additional dock and pier, and erecting lighthouſes in or near the port. The taſte for ſhow and expence, however, cauſed more than all the money deſtined for the two churches to be conſumed in building one, which was St. Paul's, conſecrated in 1769. This is a magnificent ſtructure, upon a plan in ſome meaſure imitative of that of the firſt religious edifice in England,,

England, which bears the ſame name. Like that, it has a grand portico at the weſt end, two inferior projections in the north and ſouth fronts, and a dome. This laſt, though favourable to its architectural effect, has been found greatly to injure its utility as a place for ſpeaking in. It is to be obſerved, that the erection of places of worſhip for the various claſſes of ſeparatiſts had been keeping pace during theſe periods, in number and elegance, with that of the churches of the eſtabliſhment.

The new dock, more ſpacious than either of the former, was a vaſt addition to the accommodation of the port, and its piers and quays greatly improved its beauty and grandeur. It was not finiſhed till about 1771.

The duke of Bridgewater's canals had by this time begun to operate in adding to the buſineſs of Liverpool. The Grand Trunk communication between the Trent and the Merſey, ſo important to the trade of both rivers, was carrying on with vigour. The vaſt deſign of a communication between Liverpool and Leeds, croſſing one large county, and penetrating into another, was begun to be executed in 1770, and it was not long before that part of it which extends from Liverpool to Wigan was completed, affording ſuch plentiful ſupplies of coal as greatly to add to the exportation of that commodity from this port.

The increaſing number of poor in Liverpool had cauſed ſeveral ſucceſſive changes in the management of them. At length it was determined to erect a large and commodious poor-houſe in an airy ſituation adjoining to this town, and money for this purpoſe was borrowed under the corporation ſeal. The building was begun in March 1770, and finiſhed for the reception of the poor in Auguſt 1771, at an expence of near

near £.8000. It was calculated to contain 600 inhabitants, and few inſtitutions of the kind have been better managed.

A new and ſpacious theatre, by royal patent, built by ſubſcription at the expence of £.6000, was opened in June 1772. It is probably the largeſt in England out of London, and is elegantly finiſhed both on the outſide and within. Its paſſages and communications are particularly well managed, and were much ſuperior to thoſe of the London theatres at the time of its erection. The inhabitants of Liverpool have at all times been liberal encouragers of dramatic entertainments.

In the beginning of the year 1773 a plan was executed which ought never to be long neglected in a large town—that of an actual enumeration of its inhabitants. The reſult was as follows:

Inhabited houſes, - - -	5928
Untenanted do. - - -	412
Families, - - - -	8002
Inhabitants, - - - -	34,407

Perſons to a houſe, $5\frac{4}{5}$; to a family, $4\frac{1}{3}$.

In this ſtatement, the poor-houſe, infirmary, and other buildings, where large numbers live together, were included. With reſpect to the ſeafaring men employed in the Liverpool ſhips, they were found to be about 6000. Of theſe, about two-thirds were reckoned to be uſually abſent from Liverpool, and therefore not to be accounted among the ſtated inhabitants. The annual deaths in Liverpool were eſtimated upon an average of three years, at 1240, or one in $27\frac{7}{10}$ of the inhabitants; the annual births on the ſame average were computed at 1290. It is imagined by many, that this enumeration was conſiderably ſhort of the real number; the poor, it is ſaid, frequently giving in a defective liſt, through fear of a tax. This may in ſome inſtances have been the caſe;

caſe; but, on the other hand, we ſhould be on our guard againſt that ſpirit of exaggeration, which, in *every* town, diſpoſes its inhabitants to aggrandize all its claims to ſuperiority. The proportion of people to families and houſes as ſtated, agrees very well with the beſt authorities in other places. We ſhall further remark, that enumerations of this kind ſhould not be left, as this was, to the exertions of individuals, but ſhould be undertaken by authority, whence all ſuſpicion of inaccuracy might be obviated.

Having thus carried our hiſtorical ſketch of the riſe and progreſs of Liverpool to a period in which it takes its fair ſtation as the *ſecond* ſea-port, and one of the largeſt and moſt important towns, of the kingdom, we ſhall compoſe the reſt of the article of papers and documents reſpecting its ſubſequent events and preſent ſtate, with various detached particulars of its commerce and other circumſtances belonging to it.

Government and *Police.*—By the lateſt charters granted to Liverpool it is ordained, that the body corporate ſhould conſiſt of forty-one perſons, compoſing the common council; out of whom ſhould be annually choſen a mayor, recorder, and two bailiffs. They who have borne the office of mayor, are ſtyled aldermen. The mayor, recorder, ſenior aldermen, and preceding mayor, were by the charter of William III. directed to act as magiſtrates in the town; but their number, upon the great increaſe of population, proving inſufficient, the charter of George II. further ordained, that the preceding mayor ſhould act as juſtice of the peace for four years after he is out of office; and that the four aldermen, next to the ſenior aldermen, whilſt members of the common council, ſhould be additional juſtices within the town, and the recorder ſhould have a power to nominate a deputy.

Previouſly

Previouſly to the reign of Charles II. the freemen at large exerciſed the right of chuſing their own corporate officers; but ſince that period, here, as in many other places, the corporate body aſſumed the power of filling up all vacancies within themſelves. The free burgeſſes have now, however, reclaimed their right. The mayor and bailiffs are choſen annually on October 18th. The general ſeſſion is held four times a year by two juſtices of the peace at leaſt, and by adjournment every Monday. The mayor attends daily at the town-clerk's office in the Exchange to tranſact public buſineſs. A court of requeſts is held alſo at the Exchange every Wedneſday. The number of its commiſſioners is ſeventeen, appointed by the common council monthly.

Liverpool has a bridewell and a borough gaol. The former was built in 1776, upon an improved plan. A new gaol is now juſt finiſhed, a great and coſtly ſtructure, containing all the improvements ſuggeſted in Mr. Howard's works, and introduced into the modern architecture of thoſe buildings.

This borough ſends two members to Parliament, who are choſen by the votes of all the free burgeſſes not receiving alms. All perſons who are born free, who have ſerved an apprenticeſhip under freemen, or who have obtained their freedom by grant or purchaſe from the corporation, have the right of voting. Their number is reckoned at 2300. The freemen of Liverpool are alſo free of Briſtol, and of Waterford and Wexford in Ireland.

Many uſeful regulations have been made for the government of the port, including the management of the wet, dry, and graving docks, and the laws reſpecting pilots and pilotage. From the difficult ap-

proach

proach to the harbour, the pilotage is a matter of great importance, and no pilot boats in England are reckoned to be better found, and more ſkilfully managed, than thoſe belonging to Liverpool. Some of them are conſtantly cruizing in order to meet and conduct the homeward bound ſhips.

Charities and other Public Inſtitutions.—The *Infirmary*, mentioned above as opened in 1749, is ſituated on an elevated ſpot at the eaſtern entrance of the town. It is a neat brick building ornamented with ſtone, connected by handſome colonnades with two wings, which form the ſailors' hoſpital. The principal building is three ſtories high, and conſiſts of large wards, with other neceſſary apartments. It has been gradually increaſing the number of patients accommodated in it, and its receipts and diſburſements have advanced proportionably. The average number of in-patients is now about 130. The number of out-patients is comparatively ſmall, on account of the inſtitution of a diſpenſary. The expenditure of the year ending March 1793 amounted to £.2724, which ſum that year (owing to particular circumſtances) exceeded the receipts by £.376; but it cannot be queſtioned that in ſuch a town adequate exertions will at all times be made for the ſupport of ſo uſeful an eſtabliſhment. A *Lunatic Aſylum* has lately been erected at a conſiderable expence, connected with this charity. The concerns of the infirmary are managed by a preſident, treaſurer, deputy-treaſurers, and auditors, with committees of the ſubſcribers. The ſick are attended by three phyſicians, and three ſurgeons.

The *Diſpenſary* is an inſtitution liberal in its plan, and highly beneficial in its effects. Its avowed object is to afford medical relief to the poor at their own dwellings; but medical relief is in many caſes only another phraſe for a more cordial or plentiful diet; and hence this charity has

has often been the means of providing a reſource for the unfortunate ſtranger, when deprived of all other aſſiſtance, and without any legal claim for ſupport. It was inſtituted in the year 1778, chiefly by the interpoſition of ſome of the medical gentlemen of Liverpool, on whoſe recommendation a competent ſubſcription was ſpeedily obtained. It is directed by a preſident, two auditors, and a committee of the ſubſcribers. The profeſſional duty was originally performed by three phyſicians and three ſurgeons, who receive no compenſation for their trouble, and an apothecary, who reſides on the ſpot and receives a ſalary; but the number of phyſicians was in the year 1791 increaſed to ſeven, who viſit the patients according to regulations eſtabliſhed among themſelves. In the year 1782 a handſome building was erected in Church-ſtreet for the more convenient diſtribution of medicines, the accommodation of the phyſicians and ſurgeons, and the reſidence of the apothecary. Of the extenſive uſefulneſs of this charity an idea may be formed from the following extract from the printed report for the year 1794.

Patients admitted in 1794, - - - - -	13,760
Remaining on the books from the former year, - -	642
Of theſe were	14,402
Cured, - - - - - - - -	12,880
Relieved, - - - - - - - -	366
Removed to the Infirmary, - - - - -	30
Irregular, - - - - - - - -	65
Dead, - - - - - - - -	397
Remaining on the books, - - - - -	664

The diſburſements of the charity for this year amounted to £.777.

During the ſevere and ſickly months of February and March 1795, upwards of 3000 applications were made to this charity for relief, and when

when it is conſidered that the infirmary, though an excellent and well-conducted eſtabliſhment, is in its nature principally confined to ſuch patients as chooſe to relinquiſh domeſtic ſympathy and aſſiſtance for a public ward, and can only admit within its walls a number much inferior to thoſe who ſtand in need of relief, the abſolute neceſſity of a charity of this nature in a populous town muſt be ſtrikingly evident. The conſtant viſits of the phyſicians and ſurgeons at the dwellings of the ſick poor are attended with the moſt beneficial effects: order and cleanlineſs are introduced—infectious diſorders are oppoſed in the firſt ſtage of their progreſs—and a ſentiment of mutual good-will is excited between the different claſſes of ſociety, of benevolence on the one hand, and of gratitude on the other, which cannot be too induſtriouſly cultivated.

The *Aſylum for the Indigent Blind* is an eſtabliſhment of a more peculiar nature, and was begun in the year 1790, under the auſpices of a humane and public-ſpirited clergyman,* who has alſo diſtinguiſhed himſelf by extending the practice of inoculation in the town and neighbourhood of Liverpool, and other parts of the county, giving his attendance and ſupplying medicines gratis.—In reflecting on the ſituation of thoſe perſons who labour under that heavy calamity, the loſs of ſight, it muſt occur to every one that this misfortune is aggravated by a want of employment for the mind, and by a conſciouſneſs of being uſeleſs to themſelves, and in many caſes a burthen to others. Frequent experience has, however, ſhewn, that blind perſons are capable of becoming expert in various mechanical employments, and in ſome caſes, of making a ſurprizing proficiency in uſeful accompliſhments. The education of perſons in this ſituation requires, however, a different proceſs

* The Rev. Henry Dannet, Miniſter of St. John's.

from

from that which was uſually adopted; and it was therefore ſuggeſted, that if a ſchool of induſtry were eſtabliſhed for the blind, with proper inſtructors, the moſt beneficial effects might be derived from it. A ſubſcription for this purpoſe was accordingly opened, and two houſes, fronting the area before the infirmary, were rented, as a temporary accommodation for the pupils. The earneſtneſs with which the benefits held forth by this inſtitution were graſped at by the unfortunate objects of its kindneſs, is a convincing proof that their inactivity was not voluntary, nor their ſituation hopeleſs. Several pupils were immediately admitted of different ages, moſt of whom applied themſelves diligently to the particular employment to which their talents or their fancy directed them. The principal occupations which, after a trial of ſome years, are found moſt ſuitable for the blind, independent of the uſe of various muſical inſtruments, are the making of baſkets and hampers of various kinds, of white and tarred bears, foot-cloths, lobby-cloths, the weaving of ſheeting, hagabag, window-faſh and curtain line, and the manufacturing of riding-whips, the latter of which they execute with particular neatneſs. Beſides affording the pupils inſtruction gratis, the aſylum allows them a weekly ſum proportioned to the nature of their work, and the proficiency made by them; which, with a ſmall addition, in ſome inſtances, from their friends or pariſhes, enables them to provide for their own ſupport, thereby relieving them in a great degree from the painful idea of abſolute dependence on the bounty of others; and, which is ſcarcely of leſs importance, affording them an active employment for thoſe hours which would otherwiſe be ſpent in deſpondency and gloom.

The ſubſcription for the ſupport of this charity in the year 1794, amounted to £.409 from reſidents in Liverpool, and £.121 from reſi-

dents

dents in other places; beſides which, a ſeparate ſubſcription has been entered into for the erection of a ſuitable building, where it may be practicable to vary the occupations of the pupils; particularly by affording them an opportunity of employments in the open air, to ſome of which, as the making of ropes, &c. there is no doubt but they would be fully competent. This commendable inſtitution was in the year 1793 in danger of being abandoned—not from the want of pecuniary aſſiſtance, but of perſonal attention to its regulation; but ſome reſpectable inhabitants of the town, with a generoſity far exceeding the moſt laviſh contribution of money, ſtepped in to its ſupport, and by devoting to its intereſts a conſiderable portion of their time, have regulated its finances and eſtabliſhed its utility on a permanent foundation.*

The magiſtrates of Liverpool have paid particular attention to the *recovering of perſons apparently drowned*, and ſaving them when in danger—ſuch accidents being frequent among the people employed about the docks and ſhipping. The number brought to the houſe of reception during part of 1787 and 1788 was ſeventy, of whom not fewer than ſixty-ſeven were ſaved—a proportion ſo far beyond that returned from other places, that it muſt be imputed to the alacrity with which the ample rewards beſtowed have prompted the by-ſtanders to take perſons out of the water the inſtant they have fallen in. It is to be obſerved, that the accidents happening in the docks muſt uſually have a number of witneſſes, and that the art of ſwimming is very common among the people of this town.

Workhouſe.—With the increaſe of the town, the number of poor, has, of courſe, increaſed; and additions have been made to the new

* On this occaſion the humane exertions of Mr. Pudſey Dawſon are entitled to particular commendation.

workhouſe

workhouſe above-mentioned to enable it to receive the additional number. The following liſt will ſhow the gradation of increaſe of the poor in the houſe:

Year ending March 25th.

1782	783	1787	966	1791	909
1783	920	1788	1018	1792	1003
1784	963	1789	1098	1793	885
1785	985	1790	1164	1794	1197
1786	946				

The tax for this period has been from 2*s.* to 3*s.* in the pound; the latter for the four laſt years. By great reforms in the management, though the number of poor is greater than ever, the rate has been reduced to 2*s.* 6*d.* This is eſtimated to produce net about £.15,000.

The money paid by the overſeers to the out, caſual, and ſick poor, for the year ending 24th of March 1794, was £.3075 9*s.* 1*d.* The expence of cloathing the in and out poor was £.1844 15*s.* 6*d.* and of proviſions in the houſe, £.6063 16*s.* 7*d.*; total, £.10,984 1*s.* 8*d.*—In the year 1790 the pariſh was indebted on ſeveral accounts in the ſum of £.11,709 2*s.* 1*d.*, but ſuch has been the management under the guardians of the poor, that at the cloſe of the preſent year, viz. on the 24th ult. it was expected there would be a ſurplus of £.4000.

The following paper affords ſo curious and inſtructive a ſpecies of information, that we have copied it entire from the printed report.

STATE

STATE and EMPLOYMENT of PEOPLE in the WORKHOUSE, 25th March, 1794.

Governor,	1
Matron and Chamberlain,	2
Houſe Servants,	3
Hall and Stair cleaners,	5
Keeper of Lock and Servants,	4
Two Cooks and Six Servants,	8
Two Salters and Ten Waſherwomen,	12
Milk-miſtreſs and Porter,	2
Bread Cutter and Doctor's Aſſiſtant,	2
Miſtreſs and Kneaders of Bread,	11
Nurſes and Servants for Infants,	6
Nurſes for Lying-in Women, for ſick, infirm, venereal, fever, and lunatic Wards,	14
Brewer, Warehouſeman, and Aſſiſtant,	4
Two Carters, Two Swineherds,	4
One Coalman, Ten Labourers,	11
Bell-ringer, Clerk, and Meſſengers,	5
Gardener and Aſſiſtant, Ten Pumpers,	12
Keeper of Lock's Family,	6
Schoolmaſters and Miſtreſſes,	4
Book-keepers,	2
Barber and Painter,	2
Bricklayers, Plaiſterers, and Block-maker,	5
Flax-dreſſer, Leather-cutter, and Glazier,	3
Shoe-makers,	9
Boys, ditto,	9
Weavers,	3
Boys, Weavers,	4
Ropers and Knotters,	9
Coffin-makers, Joiners, and Boys,	6
Boatbuilders,	4
Two Smiths and Eighteen Boys, making Nails *for Sale* and own Uſe,	20
Yeomen of the Smithies,	2
Spinners of Wool, Thread, and Linen,	59
Knitters and Seamſtreſſes,	51
Four Sawyers, Seven Taylors,	11
Cotton Pickers,	266
Ditto Spinners, &c.	42
Tambour Workers,	45
Matron's Family,	4
Turnkey,	1
Working People,	663
Lunatics, Idiots, Sick, Lame, Infirm, very old, very young	524
In the Houſe,	1197
Average Number from 31ſt March, 1793, to 21ſt March, 1794,	1032
Ditto 29th March, 1792, to March, 1793,	826
Average increaſe,	206

A conſi-

A conſiderable number of legacies and benefactions have at different times been made by individuals in favour of the poor of Liverpool, particularly of decayed ſailors and their widows, for whom alms-houſes have been erected in various parts of the town.

The *Blue-coat* charity, formerly mentioned, has continued to flouriſh under the management of attentive and generous truſtees. The number of children it receives was, above twenty years ago, increaſed to 200. The building erected for it is of brick, ornamented with ſtone, containing numerous and commodious apartments, and furniſhed with ſuitable out-door conveniences.

Few commercial towns have in any conſiderable degree united a taſte for literature and the fine arts with the purſuit of wealth; nor have we any public inſtitutions of this kind to enumerate under the head of Liverpool. It has, indeed, a *Subſcription Library* founded many years ſince, and well ſupported. In a room over the library, ſome gentlemen, above twenty years ago, opened an *Academy for Drawing and Painting*, in which it was propoſed to deliver lectures on Anatomy, Perſpective, Architecture, Painting, &c. with proper ſubjects and figures, and annual exhibitions of performances. But this truly liberal deſign was dropped, after a ſhort trial, for want of encouragement; its only durable relic was a very elegant *Ode* on the Inſtitution, written by a gentleman of the town, and read before the ſociety in Dec. 1773. A few copies were printed at the time, and it was re-printed in 1777, along with the beautiful deſcriptive poem by the ſame writer, entitled *Mount-Pleaſant*. This laſt ſhould be peculiarly intereſting to a native

of

of Liverpool, of which town and its vicinity it affords a ſtriking view taken from the eminence bearing that name.

Docks.—It has already been obſerved, that the harbour of Liverpool is entirely artificial, conſiſting of docks formed within the town, and communicating with the river. No maritime town in Great Britain, perhaps in Europe, can vie with Liverpool in the number and extent of theſe works, which afford conveniences in loading and unloading of ſhips, ſuperior to thoſe enjoyed by any natural harbours. Of the docks there are two kinds, the wet and the dry. The former are ſo conſtructed with flood-gates, that water enough is pounded in them to keep the ſhips afloat in all times of the tide. The latter are the entrances to the others, and partake of the ebb and flow of the river. The wet docks are uſually occupied by ſuch ſhips as go foreign voyages; the dry, by coaſting veſſels: between theſe are ſeveral graving docks, which admit or exclude the water at pleaſure, and are capable of receiving two or three veſſels at a time, for the purpoſe of repairing them.

The docks extend along the river nearly the breadth of the town. In the centre is the *Old Dock*, running up a conſiderable way towards the heart of the town. To the weſt of it lies the *Salthouſe Dock*, and the baſon or dry dock, ſerving as the common entrance to both. Theſe were the firſt conſtructed. To the north of theſe is ſituated *George's Dock*, with its dry baſon, the next of theſe works, hollowed and embanked out of the river beach. And to the ſouth are the neweſt docks, called the *King's* and *Queen's*, with one common dry baſon at the entrance. The duke of Bridgewater has a ſmall dock of his own between

between theſe and the Salthouſe dock. The dimenſions of the ſeveral docks are as follows:

	Yds.		Yds.			Ft.	In.		Ft.	In.	
Old Dock, -	195	by	85.	Its gates,		33	0	wide,	25	3	deep.
Salthouſe Dock,	213	by	102.	Do.	-	34	0	——	25	0	——
George's Dock,	246	by	100.	Do.	-	38	3	——	26	2	——
King's Dock,	272	by	95.	Do.	-	42	0	——	26	0	——
Queen's Dock,	280	by	120.	Do.	-	42	0	——	27	0	——

The length of quay afforded by all theſe capacious baſons, will appear on calculation to be ſo great, as to eclipſe all the moſt famous of the river or ſhore quays in the different ſea-ports; and though their magnificence of proſpect is diminiſhed, their utility is increaſed, by having them accumulated within a moderate compaſs of ground, rather than extended in one long line.

The vaſt labour and expence of theſe works will readily be conceived by one who conſiders that they muſt all have been hollowed by hand from the ſhore, in continual oppoſition to the tides, which often in an hour deſtroy the labour of weeks; and that the piers muſt be made of ſufficient height and ſtrength to bear the daily efforts of a ſea beating in, and conſtantly endeavouring to recover its ancient boundaries.

On the ſides of the docks are warehouſes of uncommon ſize and ſtrength, far ſurpaſſing in thoſe reſpects the warehouſes of London. To their different floors, often ten or eleven in number, goods are craned up with great facility. Government in particular has here a very extenſive tobacco warehouſe, occupying a large compaſs of ground. The ſpace round the docks is ſufficient to give room for loading

loading and unloading, and all the occupations of the ſailors, without interruption of each other, or of the crowds of paſſengers. Strangers may with eaſe drive along the quays, and enjoy the view of the buſy ſcene without danger or inconvenience; a pleaſure no where to be obtained on the river at London, where the cloſe wharfs are abſolutely inacceſſible except by carts, and by them not to be approached without great obſtruction. The entrance to the docks are croſſed by drawbridges, excellently conſtructed on the Dutch plan.

On the weſt ſide of the North Dock, by the river ſide, is a pier forming a fine parade, 320 yards in length, and of conſiderable breadth, which is a favourite walk of the inhabitants and ſtrangers. It commands a noble view of the harbour from the rock point or commencement of the ſea, to the diſtance of ſeveral miles up the river, and a beautiful landſcape on the Cheſhire ſide. Hence all the ſhips are diſtinctly ſeen as they work in and out of the harbour, and enter or quit the docks.*

Baths.—

* It will not, we truſt, be unacceptable to the public, if we here give a ſketch of a plan for wet docks in the port of London, now in agitation, and to be brought before Parliament this ſeſſion. The following outlines of the deſign have been communicated to us by a friend. The ſituation fixed upon is in Wapping; its neareſt part about a quarter of a mile from the Tower. The works will conſiſt of

	Acres.	Rs.	Ps.		Ships.
A Baſon or Outer Dock, compriſing -	3	0	35	for	33
London Dock, - - - - -	25	0	17	—	250
Inner Dock, - - - - - -	10	2	0	—	105
	38	3	12	—	388

A large ſpace of about thirty acres is to be left about the docks for quays, warehouſes, &c. Ships are to be at liberty to diſcharge either on the quays, or into lighters; and for the

Baths.—A little northwards of the North Dock, Mr. Wright, an eminent ſhip-builder of the town, has erected a ſet of elegant and commodious ſea-baths, divided into ſeparate baths and rooms for both ſexes, each bath ſupplied with water from the centre. On the outſide are ſteps for the convenience of ſwimmers who chuſe to launch into the open water, and who may frequently be ſeen plunging among the waves of a boiſterous tide. It is the inconvenience of theſe baths, that they can only be uſed when the tide is in, there being no contrivance, as at Yarmouth, for a perpetual ſupply of water by means of a reſervoir. They are, however, much frequented. The corporation intend to build another dock upon this ſpot, and to erect another ſet of baths, upon a much larger ſcale and improved conſtruction, at their own expence. Being upon the ſubject of bathing, we ſhall mention an extraordinary mode of taking this ſalutary amuſement *without baths*, practiſed upon the beach below the town for ſome weeks in the height of ſummer. It is a cuſtom with the lower claſs of people, of both ſexes, for many miles up the country, and even as far as the manufacturing diſtricts to the very extremity of the county, to make an annual viſit to Liverpool, for the purpoſe of waſhing away (as they ſeem to ſuppoſe) all the collected ſtains and impurities of the year. Being unable to afford a long ſtay, or to make uſe of artificial conveniences, they employ two or three days in ſtrolling along ſhore, and dabbling in the ſalt-water for

the greater convenience of diſcharging, a large lighter dock is to be connected with the other docks, for the reception of thirty lighters each tide.—It is further in contemplation to form a cut of $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles from Blackwall to the docks, admitting two loaded ſhips to paſs at a time, in order to avoid the navigation round the Iſle of Dogs and through the Pool.

The only docks of any moment now in the port of London are two private concerns, that of Mr. Wells, at Greenland dock, containing about twelve acres of ground, and of Mr. Perry, at Blackwall, containing about eight acres.

hours

hours at each tide, covering the beach with their promiſcuous numbers, and not much embarraſſing themſelves about appearances. As the practice, however, ſeems conducive both to health and pleaſure, it is not to be wiſhed that rigid notions of delicacy ſhould interfere with this only mode which the poor have of enjoying it.

The Fort —At different periods, the harbour of Liverpool has been protected from temporary dangers of hoſtile attacks by the erection of occaſional batteries; but in the American war, a fort of conſiderable ſize and ſtrength was erected at a large expence on a point of land to the north of all the town, near the baths, and the public walk called the *Ladies' Walk*. It is nearly of a ſemi-circular form, conſtructed of the ſoft yellow ſtone from the quarries near the town, and well-furniſhed with light and heavy cannon. It contains buildings for the accommodation of the men and officers, by whom it is conſtantly occupied, and who keep guard with great regularity. Its ſituation, juſt above the level of the water, and commanding an uninterrupted range of the whole harbour, from its entrance to oppoſite the town, gives it every advantage for ſecurity that could be wiſhed. But, in fact, the dangerous ſhoals at the mouth of the harbour, which ſhift every tide, and could not be paſſed without the aſſiſtance of pilots, and the direction of buoys and ſea-marks, are a more effectual ſecurity.

Buildings in general.—The central parts of Liverpool, like thoſe of almoſt all our towns, were cloſe and narrow, the inconvenience of which was more and more felt as buſineſs and population increaſed. The corporation, (which has ever, beyond moſt in England, been active and liberal in promoting plans of public advantage) obtained from parliament powers for widening and improving the ſtreets, which they have employed

ployed with great judgment and to a vaſt expenditure. About the Exchange, in particular, a great deal has been done; and Caſtle-ſtreet, which leads from it to St. George's church, is converted into a ſpacious and very well-built ſtreet, furniſhed with ſhops almoſt equal to thoſe of Cheapſide. All the new parts of Liverpool are regularly laid out with ſtraight and wide ſtreets, ſome of them truly handſome. The material is for the moſt part brick. Everton, now entirely joined to Liverpool by buildings, forms, as it were, a new town, and is a favourite reſidence to thoſe whoſe occupations do not oblige them to be near the centre of buſineſs.

The *Exchange*, a building of much coſt and magnificence, which contained the town-hall and other public offices, as well as the aſſembly rooms, and was finiſhed with great elegance and expence, unfortunately took fire by accident in the beginning of this year, and was entirely conſumed, except the outer walls. Such a diſaſter, however, was calculated only to rouſe the ſpirit of this enterpriſing town; and the following paragraph, copied from Gore's Liverpool Advertiſer for March 19th, will ſhow what a phœnix is likely to riſe out of its aſhes.

Gore's Liverpool Advertiſer, March 19th, 1795.

"IT is with the utmoſt ſatisfaction we are enabled to ſtate, that the event of the late dreadful fire at the exchange, much as it has been lamented, is likely to be productive of moſt important good conſequences to the public, and to thoſe in particular whoſe buſineſs require their attendance in any of the offices belonging to it. A plan has been adopted by the common council, and ordered to be carried into execution, for the

the re-building of the Exchange, which, from the general diſpoſition of the whole, and the particular arrangement of the various rooms and offices, will afford the moſt deſirable conveniences for the public and private buſineſs of the mayor and corporation, and their reſpective officers, and very ample accommodation for the merchants and the public at large.

" No other part of the old building will remain but the exterior walls, the fronts of which are univerſally admired for their architectural beauty, and have received no material injury from the fire; the principal entrance from Caſtle-ſtreet will be into a ſpacious hall, leading to the grand ſtair-caſe in the *area*, which will now be placed in the center of the building, and over which will be erected the elegant dome deſigned by Mr. Wyat, a model of which was lately exhibited in the Exchange. On the eaſt ſide will be a commodious committee room, and range of offices for the town clerk, treaſurer, ſurveyors, &c. opening into High-ſtreet; and on the weſt ſide a noble coffee room, eight feet by thirty-two, the entrance to which will be on that ſide oppoſite to the brokers' offices: at the north end, in the new building, will be the public office for the daily buſineſs of the magiſtrates, which, by means of a moveable partition, can at any time be enlarged to the ſize of ſixty feet by forty, and form a moſt capacious *court room* for the ſeſſions, or *hall* on occaſions of public meetings, being a third part larger than the late town hall; and there will be convenient offices at each end of the court room, for the magiſtrates and juries, and for the purpoſe of town's committees, turnpike meetings, &c. By this arrangement, ample accommodation, and every convenience to be wiſhed for, is provided for the public buſineſs *on the ground floor only*; and the *ſuite* of rooms above ſtairs for the uſe of the mayor and council, and for public

public entertainments, will be rendered as complete as poſſible; they will conſiſt of ſix principal rooms on one floor, the *ball room* being ninety feet by forty-five, two other rooms fifty by thirty, and the reſt in proportion.

" The outline and general diſpoſition of this extenſive plan has received the approbation of a profeſſional gentleman of the firſt abilities, who will furniſh deſigns for finiſhing its different parts."

With reſpect to the proper uſe of an Exchange, that of a place where merchants meet to tranſact buſineſs, Liverpool has loſt nothing by the demolition of its late edifice; ſince the merchants, from immemorial cuſtom, always held their 'Change in the open ſpace at the top of Caſtle-ſtreet, and were not, even by a ſhower, driven to ſhelter elſewhere than in the adjoining ſhops.

The *churches* and *chapels* of the eſtabliſhment at preſent in Liverpool are the following:

St. Nicholas's,	St. Thomas's,	St. John's,
St. Peter's,	St. Paul's,	St. Ann's,
St. George's,	St. Catherine's,	St. Stephens.

To which may be added, on account of their connection with the town by contiguity of building, St. Ann's, Richmond; and St. James's, Toxteth-park.

There are likewiſe ſeveral large and handſome places of worſhip, belonging to the different denominations of Diſſenters, Methodiſts, Quakers, and Roman Catholics.

An

An extenſive *pleaſure walk*, called St. James's, handſomely laid out and planted, was made a good many years ſince on the high ground above the ſouth end of the town. It commands a fine view of the town, river, and diſtant country, but the bleakneſs of its expoſure makes it agreeable only in very fine weather, and is unfavourable to vegetation. Behind it, is a moſt extenſive *ſtone quarry*, which offers a very ſtriking ſpectacle. Labour has here expoſed to view one continued face of ſtone, 380 yards long, and in many parts ſixteen yards deep, forming a vaſt perpendicular wall, without a vein or crack. The entrance to it is by a ſubterraneous paſſage ſupported by arches, and the whole has a pleaſing and romantic effect. The ſtone is a kind of ſand ſtone of a yellowiſh hue, ſoft when cut, but afterwards hardening. It is uſed in the public buildings and works of the town. A chalybeat water of moderate ſtrength ſprings in the quarry.

Supply of Proviſions, Coals, &c.—The market days of Liverpool are Wedneſday and Saturday. Few towns of the ſize are more plentifully and regularly ſupplied with proviſions of all kinds, brought from a great diſtance round. The hundred of Wirral in Cheſhire, particularly, furniſhes large quantities of vegetables, fruit, butter, and other articles, which the market people bring over in the ferry boats that are continually paſſing and repaſſing the channel. Potatoes in great quantities, and excellent in kind, are brought from Ormſkirk and the pariſhes in its neighbourhood. The farms in the vicinity of the town are much devoted to the production of milk, the demand for which, in ſo populous a place, is almoſt unlimited. Of the kinds of fiſh, occaſionally brought to its markets, a pretty long liſt may be formed; but upon the whole it is leſs abundant than might be expected in a ſea-port town. The Lancaſhire coaſt, as already obſerved, is not favourable for the eſtabliſh-

eſtabliſhment of fiſheries. The Iſle of Man furniſhes ſupplies of the cheaper ſorts, eſpecially herring. As an article rather of *luxury* than of *proviſion*, turtle may be noticed, which arrives in conſiderable cargoes with the Weſt India ſhips, and is no where better dreſſed or more hoſpitably beſtowed, accompanied with unſparing draughts of beverage made from the excellent rum and limes derived from the ſame quarter of the world. Good *water* is, however, more of a rarity here than could be wiſhed: and a ſtranger is ſtruck with the water-carts driving through the ſtreets, from which this neceſſary article is ſold at a half-penny per bucket, a circumſtance by no means conducive to cleanlineſs among the poor, or even thoſe of middling condition. It is hoped that the corporation will either themſelves find ſome better mode of ſupplying the town with water, or give permiſſion for that purpoſe to ſome gentlemen who have propoſed to form a reſervoir on Everton, and thence convey it in pipes to every part of Liverpool.

With reſpect to *coals*, Liverpool is fortunate in having its ſources for that eſſential article increaſed, with the increaſe of demand. The pits at Whiſton, near Preſcott, formerly ſupplied the town entirely, and they ſtill ſend a large quantity, by land carriage, the carts for which purpoſe are no ſmall nuiſance at particular times on that road. The Sankey canal opened a new ſource, which, though diſtant, has the advantage of water carriage all the way; and the Leeds and Liverpool canal, by means of its branch to Wigan, has made an ample addition, both in quantity and kind, much cannel, as well as common coal, being brought to Liverpool by its conveyance. The head of this canal, near the Ladies' Walk, is widened into a kind of baſon, where boats can load and unload with the greateſt convenience, in a large coal-yard. Between this and the Merſey, a ſquare dock of conſiderable ſize is making, which will hold a great number of the navigation craft.

Trade

Trade and Commerce.—The moſt important circumſtances relative to Liverpool are the progreſs and preſent ſtate of its trade, which we ſhall endeavour, in addition to the information already given, to elucidate by tables and other documents drawn from the beſt authorities.

The dock duties are levied upon ſhips according to a certain rate per ton, which rate is determined by the place whence they come, increaſing in a great ratio with the increaſe of diſtance. The following table exhibits the annual number of ſhips paying them, and the whole amount of the duties; and it will be obſerved, that this amount has gradually been in an increaſing proportion to the number of ſhips.

Dock Duties at Liverpool, from the Year 1752, ending the 24th of June each Year.

Year.	Numb. of Ships.	£.	s.	d.	Year.	Numb. of Ships.	£.	s.	d.
1752		1776	8	2	1774	2258	4580	5	5
1753		2034	16	2	1775	2291	5384	4	9
1754		2095	11	0	1776	2216	5064	10	10
1755		2417	13	11	1777	2361	4610	4	9
1756		2187	16	9	1778	2292	4649	7	7
1757	1371	2336	15	0	1779	2374	4957	17	10
1758	1453	2403	6	3	1780	2261	3528	7	9
1759	1281	2372	12	2	1781	2512	3915	4	11
1760	1245	2330	6	7	1782	2496	4249	6	3
1761	1319	2382	2	2	1783	2816	4840	8	3
1762	1307	2526	19	6	1784	3098	6597	11	1
1763	1752	3141	1	5	1785	3429	8411	5	3
1764	1625	2780	3	4	1786	3228	7508	0	1
1765	1930	3455	8	4	1787	3567	9199	18	8
1766	1903	3653	19	2	1788	3677	9206	13	10
1767	1704	3615	9	2	1789	3619	8901	10	10
1768	1808	3566	14	9	1790	4223	10,037	6	2½
1769	2054	4004	5	0	1791	4045	11,645	6	6
1770	2073	4142	17	2	1792	4483	13,243	17	8¼
1771	2087	4203	19	10	1793	4129	12,480	5	5
1772	2259	4552	5	4	1794	4265	10,678	7	0
1773	2214	4725	1	11					

The

The next table gives the whole number and tonnage of ships, native and foreign, that have annually entered or left the port for a period of forty-three years.

The Number of Ships and their Tonnage that have cleared outwards and entered inwards at the Port of Liverpool, from the Year 1751 to the Year 1793.

	Inwards.				Outwards.			
	British.		Foreign.		British.		Foreign.	
Year.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
1751	523	29,178	20	2535	588	31,185	20	2508
1752	529	29,137	46	5430	561	31,777	48	5884
1753	584	34,221	28	3515	601	34,689	22	3085
1754	577	32,255	44	5710	588	33,435	42	5843
1755	507	33,159	29	3425	519	30,660	27	3315
1756	522	29,793	48	5195	607	35,426	42	4542
1757	554	32,386	68	7300	609	37,881	57	7268
1758	602	36,263	63	7296	641	38,502	56	6277
1759	519	33,006	112	17,789	551	35,079	117	14,498
1760	556	36,884	76	10,535	592	37,157	81	11,663
1761	529	32,899	80	11,043	654	40,268	60	8223
1762	623	45,540	94	12,344	614	39,304	102	13,844
1763	574	39,714	78	11,584	700	44,863	92	13,596
1764	695	46,387	71	10,112	772	50,709	58	8132
1765	738	53,030	65	8134	795	53,807	70	9811
1766	646	51,623	54	7825	708	51,012	69	9370
1767	663	51,690	70	8011	784	57,376	66	9482
1768	727	54,949	57	7225	826	60,379	59	7950
1769	759	58,348	77	10,784	907	62,499	78	11,329
1770	743	46,062	63	7965	942	66,516	79	10,381
1771	764	59,734	55	6924	959	73,432	65	10,366
1772	857	68,812	68	8401	1022	81,689	73	11,284
1773	970	70,392	57	7111	1022	76,588	64	9366
1774	989	79,315	61	8032	973	76,892	64	8744
1775	1016	86,382	56	7294	983	76,686	57	7494
1776	901	74,140	81	12,991	937	68,488	75	11,616
1777	893	70,792	101	11,627	979	71,295	96	11,852
1778	838	76,277	100	13,342	857	63,420	95	11,782
1779	742	57,103	136	17,623	908	64,836	149	19,379
1780	739	58,769	133	17,087	880	61,573	151	19,202
1781	801	58,914	169	22,569	1021	65,477	182	25,899
1782	847	66,290	169	23,107	968	64,481	213	30,295
1783	1165	96,089	206	28,376	1355	105,074	222	32,294
1784	1217	122,263	162	26,091	1333	113,481	160	26,958
1785	1427	127,388	129	21,576	1446	122,195	129	21,990
1786	1381	140,224	150	27,611	1337	128,766	140	28,194
1787	1348	153,625	161	26,903	1474	159,834	180	31,715
1788	1570	140,812	152	25,600	1673	186,355	156	26,973
1789	1603	171,672	89	15,202	1486	170,369	87	14,456
1790	1864	205,440	200	35,677	1779	201,641	196	36,143
1791	1814	220,318	254	46,878	1904	225,641	263	46,839
1792	1832	225,242	215	41,166	1926	231,277	212	41,213
1793	1704	188,286	215	41,177	1739	169,770	240	47,719

The

Ships belonging to Liverpool.—Before the regulations of the Manifeſt Act, the number of ſhips properly belonging to each port could not be aſcertained with any certainty. We do not, therefore, copy any earlier accounts of this kind for Liverpool; but content ourſelves with giving thoſe for the ſeven years ending in 1793, which have been copied from the regiſter of the ſhipping of that port.

Year.	Ships.	Tons.	Year.	Ships.	Tons.
1787	445	72,731	1791	528	83,696
1788	475	76,078	1792	584	92,098
1789	479	76,251	1793	606	96,694
1790	504	80,003			

The next table that we ſhall preſent, gives the particulars of the foreign trade of Liverpool, according to the *places* to and from which it has been carried on, for ſix ſucceſſive years, ending in 1793. Theſe exhibit a gradation of increaſe above all former periods, as far as the year 1792, which was the ſummit of the ſcale. Since that time, temporary cauſes have produced a decline here, as in almoſt all other commercial towns. This table has been moſt obligingly furniſhed us by the Inſpector General of ports at the Cuſtom-houſe in London.

An

An Account of the Number of Veſſels, with the Amount of their Tonnage, that have entered Inwards and cleared Outwards in the Port of Liverpool in the following Years, diſtinguiſhed according to the Places whence and to which they made their Voyages. (N. B. Coaſters excluded.)

	1788.								1789.								1790.							
	INWARDS.				OUTWARDS.				INWARDS.				OUTWARDS.				INWARDS.				OUTWARDS.			
	Britiſh.		Foreign.		Britiſh.		Foreign.		Britiſh.		Foreign.		Britiſh.		Foreign.		Britiſh.		Foreign.		Britiſh.		Foreign.	
	Shs.	Tons.	Sh.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Sh.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Sh	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Sh	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Sh.	Tons.
Africa, — — — —	18	3310			73	13,394			12	1432			66	11564			11	1833			91	17917		
America, viz. Britiſh Colonies,	4	1016			14	2745			3	220			8	1807			1	52			20	3731		
———, United States, —	58	11,644	49	7176	66	14.243	51	7245	62	12083	37	5206	110	20471	39	5689	78	14675	60	9679	77	16151	67	10276
———, Weſt Indies, —	168	34,988			112	23,442			156	33492			76	16195			155	32158	1	150	91	19622		
Britiſh Fiſhery, — —	19	722							41	1318							31	930						
South Fiſhery, — —					1	320			1	320											1	320		
Greenland Fiſhery, — —	22	6774			22	6774			13	3915			18	5605			14	4053			13	4401		
Honduras Bay, — — —	4	575							2	434			1	77			3	564						
Ireland, — — —	970	64,131	18	1684	999	63,764			968	67784	13	1662	870	57114	1	82	1112	78491	15	1991	1037	69351		
Iſle of Man, — — —	99	3686	1	80	112	4522			105	4382			111	4240			87	3810			95	4270		
Guernſey, — — —	1	93			3	196			1	72			5	430			1	218			8	992		
Jerſey, — — — —									2	166			6	324			1	25			1	25		
Denmark and Norway, —	5	963	15	2563	15	5293	21	3553	1	91	5	740	23	6989	19	3067	9	1586	20	3744	31	5852	39	7500
Ruſſia, — — — —	68	21,346	1	120	22	8603	1	112	47	14771			18	6417			81	22328			55	18390	2	463
Sweden, — — —	5	593	3	382	1	113	2	240	12	1105			1	100			7	604	1	110	5	515	1	150
Germany, — — —	10	1447	9	1086	25	5037	18	2258	10	1508	5	616	23	4482	5	679	9	980	14	1529	24	3788	23	2883
Holland, — — —	19	1818	1	120	7	847			6	696			11	980			25	2647	7	707	9	1153	3	215
Poland and Pruſſia, — —	26	8590	46	11,208	17	6917	47	11375	37	12407	21	6010	20	7487	16	4239	83	23174	65	15742	30	10450	38	10741
Flanders, — — —	3	491	1	200	57	9978	7	1336	5	539	1	156	70	12604	1	156	1	91	3	435	68	11270	10	2300
France, — — —	29	2958	5	520	78	8278	8	1278	82	8394	4	517	69	6756	1	159	47	5371	7	920	50	5515	1	172
Portugal, — — —	29	2871	4	367	22	2470	8	947	51	5160	3	295	24	2797	5	385	64	6914	4	394	39	4367	5	514
Spain, — — — —	18	2026	2	100	15	1713	3	198	19	2109			19	1915			19	2014	2	201	17	1788	2	246
Italy, — — — —	14	1492			12	1563			10	1026			18	2092			21	2619	1	75	15	1859	5	683
Turkey, — — —																	3	303						
Total	1589	171,524	155	25,600	1673	180,217	166	28,542	1646	173425	89	15202	1587	170446	87	14456	1863	205440	220	35677	1779	201741	196	36143

Account of the Number of Veſſels continued.

	1791.								1792.								1793.							
	INWARDS.				OUTWARDS.				INWARDS.				OUTWARDS.				INWARDS.				OUTWARDS.			
	Britiſh.		Foreign.		Britiſh.		Foreign.		Britiſh.		Foreign.		Britiſh.		Foreign.		Britiſh.		Foreign.		Britiſh.		Foreign.	
	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.	Shs.	Tons.
Africa, — — —	10	1622			102	19610			11	1643			132	22402			14	2260			52	10544		
America, viz. Britiſh Colonies,	8	1550			22	4650			13	3290			26	6318			6	1411			22	4337		
———, United States, —	62	14587	103	18498	97	21844	105	17945	52	11834	102	18964	71	15844	103	18796	37	9115	117	21061	17	4807	117	21429
———, Weſt Indies, —	185	38196			98	19945			195	38902			115	24317			197	38911			108	22996		
Britiſh Fiſhery, — —	31	932							26	776							22	670						
South Fiſhery, — —	1	320			1	459			1	459							2	419			3	710		
Greenland Fiſhery, — —	15	4373			15	4373			14	3971			14	3971			11	2978			11	2978		
Honduras Bay, — —	2	255			4	731			4	823			3	591			7	1463			1	253		
Ireland, — — —	998	74551	18	2149	1064	76353			1039	79965	15	2026	1055	76191			1073	82718	32	5347	1289	95250		
Iſle of Man, — — —	103	4522			101	4258			100	4159			118	4826			136	5734	3	365	151	6860		
Guernſey, — — —			2	330	4	471							1	59										
Jerſey, — — —	1	70											1	40										
Denmark and Norway, —	3	437	18	3075	35	8302	46	8281	1	102	12	1884	25	6068	31	5376	4	429	9	1343	28	7964	15	2772
Ruſſia, — — —	122	33129			62	18365	1	199	142	41535			83	27011	1	380	52	16168			28	9811	1	230
Sweden, — — —	8	1035	6	738	3	547	6	726	11	1365	4	440	2	522	4	494	3	235	5	611			5	419
Germany, — — —	12	2525	20	2601	30	5669	25	3791	16	2267	15	2413	31	5648	13	1917	6	941	3	608	22	4194	16	2570
Holland, — — —	23	2409	10	784	7	839	1	47	18	2282	11	1083	16	2026	5	242	12	1273	2	270	10	1416	6	928
Poland and Pruſſia, — —	84	20409	72	18083	32	9926	57	14868	46	12964	49	13628	15	5517	34	10571	71	15740	34	10456	30	8531	30	10127
Flanders, — — —	1	113			67	10165	12	2670					71	13096	11	1788					25	5715	32	6519
France, — — —	41	4273	2	307	50	5533	3	362	27	2391	1	96	32	3078	3	724	4	467	3	340			11	1768
Portugal, — — —	84	9923	3	313	46	5682	4	486	84	10164	4	304	55	6921	7	594	33	3830	5	494	17	2250	3	194
Stain, — — — —	27	3110			33	3940	3	464	29	3108	2	328	26	2920	1	331	21	2166	2	282	7	650	1	194
Italy, — — — —	15	1882			30	3656			29	4018			34	3911			15	2029			15	1895	3	469
Turkey, — — —	9	1027			1	323																		
Total	1845	221250	254	46878	1904	225641	263	49820	1858	226018	215	41166	1926	231277	212	41213	1726	188957	215	41177	1836	191161	240	47710

The progreſs and fluctuation of the *African trade* in this port is a matter of ſuch important ſpeculation, that we have devoted a table to it alone, in which its annual ſtate from its very firſt exiſtence is ſhown.

Ships cleared out to Africa from the Port of Liverpool.

Year.	Ships.	Tons.	Year.	Ships.	Tons.
1709	1	30	1771	105	10,929
1730	15	1111	1772	100	10,150
1737	33	2756	1773	105	11,056
1744	34	2698	1774	92	9859
1751	53	5334	1775	81	9200
1752	58	5437	1776	57	7078
1753	72	7547	1777	31	4060
1754	71	5463	1778	26	3651
1755	41	4052	1779	11	1205
1756	60	5147	1780	32	4275
1757	47	5050	1781	43	5720
1758	51	5229	1782	47	6209
1759	58	5892	1783	85	12,294
1760	74	8178	1784	67	9568
1761	69	7309	1785	79	10,982
1762	61	6752	1786	92	13,971
1763	65	6650	1787	81	14,012
1764	74	7978	1788	73	13,394
1765	83	9382	1789	66	11,564
1766	65	6650	1790	91	17,917
1767	83	8345	1791	102	19,610
1768	81	8302	1792	132	22,402
1769	90	9852	1793	52	10,544
1770	96	9818			

The

The *Account of the Inland Navigation to and from Liverpool*, for the years 1786, 1787, 1788, printed in the Report concerning the African and Weſt India trade, is too curious and valuable to be omitted, though we have not been able to complete it to the preſent time. It may, however, doubtleſs be concluded to have kept pace in increaſe with the other parts of the commercial ſyſtem of this port and the country connected with it.

An Account of the Inland Navigation to and from Liverpool for the Years 1786, 1787, *and* 1788.

On the Lancaſhire end of the Leeds canal there are employed between Liverpool and Wigan eighty-nine boats, of thirty-five to forty tons burthen each; which brought to Liverpool in the years — — — — — —

			1786.	1787.	1788.
viz.	Coals, — — —	Tons.	91,249	98,248	109,202
	Flags, Slates, and Millſtones	D°.	3,944	2561	3613
	Merchandize — —	D°.	347	393	405
	Oak Timber — —	Feet.	17,403	17,986	13,589
Took from thence,	Merchandize — —	Tons.	3836	4610	4257
	Limeſtone and Bricks —	D°.	2245	2064	1429
	Lime and Manure —	D°.	10,213	11,129	12,224
	Pine Timber — —	Feet.	160,766	193,706	153,006
Between Liverpool and the river Douglas 36 boats are employed, which brought	Coals — — —	Tons.	1,6724	22,592	20,706
And took back	Limeſtone — — —	D°.	4589	6164	5921
The tonnage of the veſſels employed on the Sankey canal, the buſineſs of which is divided between Liverpool, Northwich, and Warrington, amounted to	—	Tons.	74,289	98,356	115,828

Between Liverpool on the river Merſey, and Northwich and Winſford on the Weaver, 110 veſſels are employed in carrying timber, ſalt, coals, and merchandize, to the amount of 164,000 tons annually.

Between Liverpool and Mancheſter there are employed, on the old navigation, twenty-five boats of fifty-five tons each, which make generally

rally three trips every two ſpring tides; or, upon an average, allowing for delays from bad weathers, thirty-ſix trips each in a year.

There are alſo on the duke of Bridgewater's canal, which communicates with the Staffordſhire canal, forty-two boats employed, of fifty tons each, which make on an average three trips to Liverpool every fourteen days: ten boats will be added to this part of the navigation in the ſummer.

Privateers.—Liverpool has in different wars diſtinguiſhed itſelf by the ſpirit with which it has fitted out armed ſhips for the purpoſe of annoying the trade of the enemy. How far this is a uſeful ſpirit to a trading town, and in what degree the prizes made have exceeded or fallen ſhort of the expences of the outfits, we ſhall not inquire. But it ought not to be omitted, as a memorable inſtance of the power and enterprize of a ſingle Britiſh port, that ſoon after the commencement of hoſtilities with France in 1778, there ſailed from the port of Liverpool, between the end of Auguſt 1778 and that of April 1779, 120 private ſhips of war, carrying 1986 guns, (moſtly ſix and nine-pounders) and 8754 men, and of the burthen of 30,787 tons—a navy of itſelf, ſuperior to that of all England in ſome of its moſt illuſtrious reigns! The largeſt of theſe ſhips was a frigate of thirty nine-pounders; that with the heavieſt metal was one of ſixteen eighteen-pounders. Some of the prizes taken by the Liverpool privateers were of very great value; and their effect in cutting off the reſources of the hoſtile powers was very conſiderable.

A foreign commerce of the vaſt magnitude above ſtated, muſt neceſſarily give employment to a number of *domeſtic trades*, ſome belonging to

to ſhipping in general, and ſome dependent on the peculiar nature of the traffic of the port. On the whole, however, Liverpool is leſs of a manufacturing town than Briſtol, nor does it ſupply ſo many articles for the uſe of the Weſt India iſlands. It poſſeſſes, however, glaſs houſes, ſalt works, copperas works, copper works, iron foundries, many houſes for the refining of ſugar, and a number of public breweries, both for home conſumption and exportation. A ſtranger is ſtruck with the number of windmills in and near the town, of which the greater part are devoted to the grinding of corn, but many to the grinding of colours and raſping dyer's wood. The builders' yards are large and well ſtocked with timber, and there are many conſiderable roperies. It has already been mentioned, that the watch movement and tool buſineſs has eſtabliſhed its head-quarters in or near Liverpool. A ſtocking manufactory, employing a good number of hands, has likewiſe been ſet up in the town.

Population.—The progreſs of population in Liverpool cannot but have borne proportion to that of its commerce and of its ſize; though, with reſpect to the latter, it may be remarked, that the improvements in widening the ſtreets at the center, and building large houſes inſtead of ſmall ones, muſt, as in London, have rendered that part of the town leſs populous, and thrown its ſuperfluity upon the extremities. It cannot, however, be doubted that the whole number of houſes in Liverpool has very greatly increaſed ſince the enumeration in 1773; and though we have not been able to obtain a regular account of the bills of mortality ſince that period, yet from a few of them, together with a pretty late return of houſes, a tolerable idea may be formed of the latter progreſs and preſent ſtate of its population.

In

In 1773 it appears that there were regiſtered,

Chriſten. 1397; Burials, 1109; Marriages, 500.

Now, taking the chriſtenings as the ſteadieſt article, and comparing them with the number of inhabitants found that year by actual enumeration, which, allowing for the increaſe of the year and for omiſſions, we may ſtate at 35,000; it will appear, that the proportion of regiſtered chriſtenings to that of exiſting inhabitants was nearly as one to twenty-five.

In 1780 there were,

Chriſt. 1709; Burials, 1594; Marriages, 607.

By the above rule of multiplying the chriſtenings, the number of inhabitants in that year will turn out to be about 42,700.

In 1785 there were,

Chriſt. 2007; Burials, 1778; Marriages, 767.

By the ſame rule the inhabitants were about 50,170.

From March 25, 1787 to ditto 1788, there were,

Chriſt. 2267; Burials, 1773; Marriages, 804.

The inhabitants, by the above rule, were then 56,670.

From the tax-gatherers books, examined 29th of February, 1789, it appears that the rated houſes for the preceding year were as follows:

Houſes at £.5 per annum, - -		2053
Ditto at above £.5 and under £.10 -		2561
Ditto at £.10 and upwards, - -		2725
		7339
Ditto untenanted and unfiniſhed -		351
Total -		7690

It

It is extremely difficult to know what allowance ſhould be made for non-rated houſes and excuſed, the proportion of theſe varying ſo greatly in different diſtricts. It is, however, preſumable, that in Liverpool the proportion would be much ſmaller than in many other towns, ſince the number of *manufacturing* poor in it, who are always the greateſt defaulters in public payments, is but ſmall, and from the rate of houſe rent, very few can be ſuppoſed to let under £.5. If one fourth be added to the number of inhabited houſes on this account, the proportion of inhabitants to a houſe, as eſtabliſhed by the enumeration of 1773, (viz. $5\frac{4}{5}$) will give at that period a population of 51,190. But this is a merely conjectural calculation, and probably too low. The increaſe ſince that year cannot but have been conſiderable. If it has borne proportion to the increaſe of the ſhipping, it will have exceeded one-fifth.

The Tenures of Liverpool and its Neighbourhood.—The townſhip and manor of Liverpool formerly belonged to the family of Molyneux, now earls of Sefton, which, though an Iriſh title, is derived from the ancient family ſeat at Sefton, or Sephton, in this neighbourhood.

Till very lately the corporation of Liverpool were only leſſees of the manor, under this family, for a long term of years; but about twenty years ſince they purchaſed the reverſionary eſtate, and have thereby conſolidated the fee in themſelves.

But the corporation, although poſſeſſed of the royalty, are not the proprietors of all the lands in the townſhip, the northern part of which adjoining to Kirkdale and Everton, and including about one half of the town as now built, is private property, either held in fee, or leaſed by private owners upon building leaſes. Of theſe owners the moſt conſiderable is Thomas Croſs, Eſq. of Shaw-Hill in this county, whoſe eſtate com-

comprehends a large diſtrict on the north ſide of the town, which he grants out on building leaſes nearly on the ſame terms as the corporation.

The leaſes granted by the corporation are for three lives, and a term of twenty-one years after the death of the ſurvivor; under which leaſe the inhabitants of the town heſitate not to expend large ſums of money in buildings, making little difference in their eſtimation between a corporation leaſehold, and an eſtate in fee. This confidence of the public is founded on an idea that the corporation will, in caſe of the death of any of the lives, renew the leaſe by nominating others, although it contain no ſtipulation to that effect. They are, however, engaged to comply with this by the ſtrongeſt of all ties, that of their own intereſt; and from the fines paid for ſuch renewals a principal part of the large income of the corporation ariſes. Their terms are, in general (though not without ſuch exceptions as they may think expedient) for the inſertion of one new life, one year's rent; of two lives, three years rent; of three lives, ſeven years rent. On theſe terms, the calculation in point of advantage is ſuppoſed to be favourable to the corporation; but the practice of renewing leaſes is general, and the leſſees would deem it a peculiar hardſhip if they were compelled to exhauſt their term without the power of renewal.

Liverpool, on the ſouth ſide, is bounded by the townſhip of Toxteth-park, belonging to the earl of Sefton. From its vicinity to the town, and particularly to the new docks, ſuch part of it as lies next to Liverpool has been thought convenient for building, and leaſes have been granted by the late earl, on terms ſuppoſed to be equally advantageous with thoſe of the corporation. A new church called St. James's was ſome years ſince built in Toxteth park, near to the boundary between

tween that townſhip and Liverpool. The propoſed ſtreets are laid out with a proper attention to regularity and convenience. Several good houſes have been erected, and there is no doubt but that as ſoon as the re-eſtabliſhment of peace ſhall reſtore to the town of Liverpool its commerce, and its proſperity, the improvements in Toxteth park, if proper encouragement be given by the owner, will keep pace with thoſe in other parts of the vicinity. The new town is intended to be called Harrington, in reference to the family of the preſent counteſs dowager of Sefton, the daughter of the earl of Harrington; and the propoſed ſtreets take their names from the friends and relatives of the family.

The village of Everton is ſituated on an agreeable eminence about a mile north-eaſt from the town of Liverpool, and commands an extenſive proſpect of the mouth of the river, opening into the eſtuary of Bootle bay, and of the Iriſh channel, as well as of the oppoſite coaſt of Cheſter, and the northern part of Wales. This village has of late years become a very favourite reſidence, and ſeveral excellent houſes are built along the weſtern declivity of the hill. About half way on the deſcent from Everton to Liverpool, is a diſtrict of the town called Richmond, forming a pleaſant and reſpectable neighbourhood, and uniting in an eminent degree the conveniences of a town reſidence, with thoſe of a country ſituation.—The annexed view of Liverpool was taken in the year 1793, from a ſtation between Low-hill and Everton, the beſt ſpot from which the town can be viewed.

The townſhips or manors adjoining to Liverpool on the eaſt, and extending from thence to a conſiderable diſtance, are principally held by the families of Gaſcoigne and Blackburne. Theſe extenſive poſſeſſions were in the earlier part of the preſent century acquired by the induſtry



VIEW OF LIVERPOOL.

or good fortune of Mr. Iſaac Greene, an eminent attorney in this neighbourhood; who, with the opportunity, united the prudence to avail himſelf of the improving ſtate of the neighbourhood, and on terms which would now be thought ſcarcely adequate to the purchaſe of as many farms, acquired the lordſhips of Everton, Weſt-derbey, Great Woolton, Little Woolton, and Childwall, to which he added that of Hale, in right of his wife, the daughter of Sir Gilbert Ireland. On the death of Mr. Greene, his poſſeſſions became the property of his daughters and co-heireſſes, Mrs. Blackburne of Hale, and Mrs. Gaſcoigne of Childwall, by whom the manerial rights are now exerciſed, and the copyhold courts duly held, with all the formalities attending that extraordinary ſyſtem of vaſſalage; the copyholders poſſeſſing their eſtates at the will of the lord or lady, according to the cuſtom of the manor, and performing ſuit and ſervice in perſon.

Public Property of the Town of Liverpool.—The corporation of Liverpool is one of the moſt opulent in the kingdom. In the year 1793, when public credit was ſo much ſhaken throughout the kingdom, the merchants of this town, on account of the complicated nature of their concerns, laboured under peculiar difficulties, which occaſioned numerous failures, and threatened the moſt alarming conſequences. A ſcheme was at that time formed by ſome of the leading members of the corporation, to employ the public credit in aid of that of private perſons, by procuring an act of parliament to enable the corporation to iſſue negotiable bills, for which their eſtates were to be ſecurity. It was conſequently neceſſary to lay before parliament an exact account of the ſtate of their affairs, the ſummary of which is contained in the following ſchedule:

General

General Account and Valuation of the Eſtate and Revenue belonging to the Corporation of Liverpool, taken the 21ſt of March, 1793.

Income for 1792.	£.	s.	d.
Fines received for renewal of leaſes, - - -	2270	14	4
Ground rents received for 1792, - - - -	1027	1	10
Rents for buildings in poſſeſſion, let to tenants at will,	5166	17	6
Rents for land in poſſeſſion, let to ditto, - -	1349	1	0
Amount of town's duties, - - - -	12,180	7	0
Graving docks, - - - - - -	1701	16	5
Anchorage, - - - - - - -	211	15	3
Small tolls called ingates and outgates - - -	321	9	7
Weighing machine, - - - - - -	143	4	0
Rents of ſeats in St. George's church, - -	268	11	0
Arrears of intereſt from the pariſh of Liverpool, -	360	0	0
	25,000	17	11

Intereſt and Annuities paid in 1792.			
Annual intereſt upon the bond debts, principally at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, - - - -	15,835	14	3
Annuities upon bond, - - - - -	2109	12	10
	17,945	7	1
Balance in favour of the corporation, - -	9055	10	10
Valuation of the above articles, adding that of land not built on, and the ſtrand of the river,	1,044,776	0	0
Valuation of the debt, - - - - -	367,816	12	0
Balance in favour of the corporation, - -	676,959	8	0

Excluſive

	£.	s.	d.
Excluſive of a balance due from the truſtees of the docks, and of the reverſionary intereſt of certain lots of ground laid out for building, both together eſtimated at - - - - -	60,000	0	0
Excluſive alſo of public buildings, and ground appropriated to public purpoſes, valued at -	85,000	0	0

State of Agriculture about Liverpool, and Account of the Improvement of Chat and Trafford Moſs.—Of the ſtate of agriculture in the neighbourhood of Liverpool a ſhort account may ſuffice, the lands being chiefly occupied in ſmall paſture farms, producing butter and milk for the immediate uſe of the town. Little or no cheeſe is made in the neighbourhood, a ſupply of which is readily obtained from the adjacent county of Cheſter. The farm of Mr. Wakefield, in Smetham-lane, within a mile of Liverpool, is, however, deſerving of notice, though only an occaſional employment for its owner, who carries on an extenſive ſugar refinery in Liverpool. His ſtock generally conſiſts of about 100 cows, in the choice of which he prefers the Holderneſſe breed; beſides which he fats every year a conſiderable number of cattle for the market. The food which he raiſes for his cattle is chiefly turneps and potatoes, the latter of which he boils, and has found them by experience to be in this ſtate a cheap and excellent food for his horſes. In boiling his potatoes he uſes a large wooden veſſel, holding about ten buſhels, which being cloſed with a lid or cover, and perforated at the bottom, is ſet over a boiler or iron pot, the ſteam of which, riſing through the potatoes, effectually anſwers the purpoſe of boiling by immerſion. For a few years paſt he has tried the ſuccory or wild endive (Cichorium Intybus) which he finds to be very pro-

productive, throwing up a ſtrong vegetation which is conſumed by his cattle with great eagerneſs, though Dr. Withering aſſerts that cows and horſes refuſe it,* and Mr. Curtis conſiders it as a noxious weed.† A few years ſince Mr. Wakefield diſcovered a method of applying ſteam to the purpoſes of vegetation, particularly to the growing of grapes, pines, melons, and other hot-houſe productions, which is now very generally adopted in the neighbourhood, particularly at Knowſley, the ſeat of the earl of Derby, where, under the directions of Mr. Butler, a ſkilful gardener, it has had great ſucceſs. This diſcovery is likely ſoon to be made public with the conſent and under the patronage of the inventor, whoſe attention is at preſent engaged by an undertaking in the neighbourhood of Mancheſter, which, as it is likely to be of public utility, deſerves particular notice.

This undertaking is the drainage and improvement of the two large tracts of waſte land lying in the pariſh of Eccles, called Chat Moſs and Trafford Moſs, of which ſome account has before been given. The former of theſe is very conſpicuous from the road between Warrington and Mancheſter. Its dark ſurface riſes above the adjoining lands, and extends along the road five or ſix miles, approaching to it at times within the diſtance of leſs than 100 yards. Trafford Moſs lies on the ſouth ſide of the river Irwell, and adjoins to the park of John Trafford, of Trafford, Eſq. the proprietor both of that and of much the greater part of Chat Moſs.

The very populous country in the midſt of which theſe waſte lands are ſituated, their elevation above the bed of the river Irwell, the oppor-

* *Botanical Arrangement, Vol. II. P.* 863, *2d Edit.*

† *Flora Londinenſis.*

tunity

tunity of improvement by materials either found on the ſpot, or at a ſmall diſtance, and the convenience of carriage by the duke of Bridgewater's canal from Worſeley to Mancheſter, which divides Trafford Moſs into two unequal parts, and ſhoots a conſiderable way into Chat Moſs, ſeems to render the improvement of theſe lands particularly eligible; and accordingly, in the year 1792, Mr. Wakefield agreed to undertake it upon a leaſe for a long term of years. In the ſeſſion of 1793 an act of parliament was obtained, enabling the proprietor to complete ſuch agreement.

Mr. Wakefield having aſſociated in his undertaking Mr. Roſcoe of Liverpool, the drainage of Trafford Moſs was begun by them in the ſame year, and the principal part of it is now interſected by drains at ſix yards diſtance from each other. Theſe drains are cut to the depth of about three feet, and are eighteen inches wide. At the bottom a narrow or ſpit drain is formed, about ſix inches wide and eighteen inches deep, leaving a ſhoulder at the bottom of the wide drain to ſupport the ſod or turf with which the narrow or ſpit drain is covered. No material is uſed but the native ſod. Theſe drains, it muſt be obſerved, ought not to be cut at one operation, as in ſuch caſe the ſides will give way. They muſt be allowed time to harden, and drain off the water at every foot, or oftener, according to the nature and conſiſtence of the Moſs. This precaution is of the utmoſt importance. When the ſides of the drain are become ſufficiently hard, a ſod is placed over the ſpit drain, the wide drain is covered up, and the ſurface levelled for cultivation. Theſe ſmall drains open into larger ones, at 100 yards diſtance from each other, which alſo form the boundaries or fences of the intended fields, and by which the water is carried off to the extremity of the moſs, where it finds an uninterrupted courſe to the Irwell.

The

The next ſtep to be taken is to improve the ſurface, which is done by introducing ſome extraneous ſubſtance, which being mingled with the moſs, may aſſiſt its decompoſition, (the natural proceſs of which, even when expoſed to the air, is very ſlow) and may render it fit for the purpoſes of huſbandry: calcareous ſubſtances of all kinds, and even ſand, are alſo highly ſerviceable. A fine bed of marl which lies about four feet under the ſurface at one end of Trafford Moſs, affords an excellent article for its improvement. The difficulty attending the conveying the marl over the moſs, which is yet too ſoft and ſpongy to bear a cart and horſes, is obviated by the uſe of moveable caſt iron roads, the direction of which is daily changed as the work proceeds, and over which the marl is conveyed in four-wheeled waggons, containing about ſix hundred weight each. One horſe with great eaſe takes ſix of theſe waggons; by theſe means the weight of the marl, bearing on twenty-four wheels, is diſcharged at ſo many points, that the iron road is much lighter, and conſequently leſs expenſive, and more moveable than it would otherwiſe be. This road is caſt in bars of ſix feet long, which join together, and reſt on wooden ſleepers or blocks · every bar weighs about thirty pounds.

In the year 1794, the undertakers made an experiment by planting with potatoes about ten acres of the native moſs, after they had drained it, but before any marl had been introduced, the land being only manured with the common town ſoil of Mancheſter. Although the ſeaſon was unfavourable, the vegetation was ſtrong, and the crop equal to any in the neighbourhood. It is expected that in the preſent year upwards of 100 acres of Trafford Moſs will be in tillage.

The



VIEW OF LIVERPOOL.

Publish'd April 2 1795 by I. Stockdale Piccadilly

The potatoes produced on Moſs lands are ſaid to be more free from blemiſh than any other, and are always preferred for planting again to thoſe grown on other ſoils.

The operations on Chat Moſs are, we underſtand, intended to be begun immediately.

Before we entirely quit this town and county, we ſhall remark, that the aſſeſſment of men for the ſervice of the navy laid by a late act of parliament upon the ſeveral counties in the kingdom, in proportion to the taxed houſes in each, places Lancaſhire higher than any one except Yorkſhire; the numbers being, *Yorkſhire* 1064, *Lancaſhire* 589, while that for *Middleſex* and *London* together is only 552, and no other approaches near it.

Alſo, by another act for obliging every ſea-port to contribute a certain number of men for the navy, which is aſſeſſed according to the tonnage of ſhips regiſtered in each port, Liverpool ſtands ſecond; the numbers for ſome of the principal ports in England being as follows:

London,	5725	Hull,	731	Briſtol,	666
Liverpool,	1711	Whitehaven,	700	Whitby,	573
Newcaſtle,	1240	Sunderland,	669	Yarmouth,	506

The whole number to be raiſed by the ports of England is 17,948.

The ſecond view of Liverpool here annexed is copied from a picture of Mr. Peters, in the poſſeſſion of Nicholas Aſhton, Eſq. and was taken from the Cheſhire ſhore oppoſite the town.

II.—*CHESHIRE.*

CHESTER.

ON a rocky eminence above the river Dee, and half encircled by a ſweep of that river, ſtands the ancient city of Cheſter. Whatever be the truth concerning its remoter antiquity, it was certainly made a military ſtation by the Romans, for which it was well adapted, as commanding the head of the frith or eſtuary of the Dee, which then flowed up in a broad channel to its walls, overſpreading all the low grounds between Wirral and Flintſhire. It was the quarters of the twentieth Roman legion, whence the Britons gave it the names of *Caer Legion*, *Caer Leon Vawr*, *Caer Leon ar Dufyr Dwy*. The Roman geographers named it *Deunana* and *Deva* from the river; and the later hiſtorians, *Ceſtria*, from *caſtrum*, a camp or military ſtation. Its Roman origin has farther been proved by the diſcovery at various periods of remains of antiquity belonging to that nation, ſuch as altars, ſtatues, coins, and hypocauſts, of which laſt, one is at this day to be ſeen at the Feathers' inn, conſiſting of a number of low pillars, ſupporting perforated tiles for the paſſage of the warm vapour. The Saxons called this place *Leganceſter* and *Legeceſter*. It is ſtyled *Weſt Cheſter* from its relative ſituation, to diſtinguiſh it from many other towns which have the appellation of *Cheſter* with ſome addition.

With

A PLAN of CHESTER.



REFERENCES

a Blue-coat Hospital.
b St. Johns Chapel.
c Grn Market.
d d d Flesh Shambles.
e Register Office.
f Exchange.
g Green Market.
h Fish Shambles.
ii Old Linen Hall.
j Theatre & Wool Hall.
k St. Oswalds Church.
l St. Peters Church
m Trinity Church
n Custom House
o Baptist Chapel
p St. Martins Church
q St. Michaels Church
r St. Bridgets Church
s St. Marys Church
t St. Olaves Church.
u Quakers Meetinghouse.
v Independents Chapel.
v Catholicks Chapel.
w Octagon.
x Barrel-well.
y Prussian Blue Manr.
z Presbyterians Chapel.
1 Windmill Lane.
2 Dee L.
3 Walls L.
4 Kings Street.
5 Princes S.
6 Martins in the Fields.
7 Linen Hall S.
8 Trinity L.
9 Crooks Lane
10 Stanley Place.
11 Brooks S.
12 Smiths Walk.
13 Walls Lane Nunn Gard.ns
14 Nuns Lane.
15 Nicholas S.
16 Bunce L.
17 Weavers L.
18 White Friars.
19 Cuppins L.
20 Common Hall L.
21 Holme S.
22 Castle S.
23 Marys Hill
24 Glovers S.
25 Skinners L.
26 Duke S.
27 Park S.
28 Newgate S.
29 Dee L.
30 Church L.
31 Parkers L.
32 Queen S.
33 Warrington S
34 Werburghs L.
35 Abbey S.
36 Pepper S.
37 Mill S.
38 Sty L.
39 Lore L.
a Pentice.
b Bishops Palace.
c Post Office.
d New weighing Machine
e Bridge Gate.
f Water Gate.
g New Crane.
h Old Crane.
i Excise Office.
k Phoenix Tower.
1111 The Walls.
m Martins Ash.
n Fives Court.
o Bank.
r Stamp Office.
v Cockpit.
x Abbey Square.

With reſpect to its hiſtory, we ſhall briefly obſerve, that after the final departure of the Romans from this iſland in the fifth century, it fell under the dominion of the Britiſh princes, from whom it was wreſted, firſt, by Ethelfrid, who gained the battle of Cheſter againſt the king of Powis in 607, and afterwards was finally annexed to the Saxon crown by Egbert. It was ſeized and almoſt ruined by the Danes in the ninth century, and reſtored by Ethelfleda, daughter of the great Alfred. King Edgar made a league here in 973 with ſix petty kings. After the Norman conqueſt, the earldom of Cheſter, with almoſt regal powers, was conferred on Hugh Lupus, who kept his court at Cheſter, reſtored its walls, and built its caſtle. Before this time it was a guild mercatory, and was noted as a port of conſiderable commerce. In the reign of Edward the Confeſſor, there were in it 431 taxable houſes, beſides fifty-ſix that belonged to the biſhop; but this number was greatly reduced before Hugh Lupus took poſſeſſion of his earldom. In after reigns it was a place of rendezvous for troops in all expeditions againſt Wales, and frequently ſuffered in the conteſts between the two nations. It was at Cheſter that the Welch made their final acknowledgement to Edward of Caernarvon, of the ſovereignty of England, in 1300. Several of our kings viſited it at different periods, and conferred favours upon it, which were returned by loyal attachment. Its firſt royal charter was given by Henry III.; but that which beſtowed its moſt valuable privileges was granted by Henry VII. In the civil wars of Charles I. it adhered with great fidelity to the royal cauſe, and ſtood a long ſiege in 1645-6, not ſurrendering to the Parliament till all hope of relief had long been cut off by the defeat of Sir Marmaduke Langdale at Rowton-heath. In the rebellion of 1745 it was put into a ſtate of defence and ſtrongly garriſoned; but ſince that period its importance as a military ſtation has happily ceaſed.

Cheſter

Cheſter principally conſiſts of four ſtreets running from a centre towards the four points of the compaſs, and each terminated by a gate; thus preſerving the original form of a Roman camp. Theſe have been excavated in the rocky ſoil, which has been the cauſe of a very ſingular conſtruction of the houſes in them. On the level of the ſtreet are low ſhops or warehouſes; above them, a gallery, running from houſe to houſe, and ſtreet to ſtreet, and affording a covered walk for foot-paſſengers. Over it are the higher ſtories of the houſes. The gallery, called here a *row*, is on a level with the kitchens and yards of the houſes, though elevated a flight of ſteps above the ſtreet. The appearance of the whole is as if the firſt ſtories to the front of all the houſes in a ſtreet were laid open, and made to communicate with each other, pillars only being left for the ſupport of the ſuperſtructure. Thus the foot-paſſengers ſeem to be walking along the fronts of the houſes up one pair of ſtairs. In theſe *rows* are many ſhops; and they give a ſheltered walk in all weathers, though diſagreeably cloſe and often dirty, with the neceſſity of aſcending and deſcending wherever a lane croſſes the ſtreet. This mode of ſtructure is on many accounts ſo inconvenient, that it is only kept up in the old ſtreets near the centre of the city. The four ſtreets are for the moſt part of a good breadth, and ſtraight. There are various communicating lanes or narrow ſtreets, and large ſuburbs. Upon the whole, the building of the city is rather venerable and ſingular than elegant, though within the laſt twenty years a conſiderable number of houſes in the modern ſtyle have been erected in new ſituations.

Of the public edifices, few are diſtinguiſhed for ſplendour or beauty. The cathedral is a large, irregular, and heavy pile, become ragged through the decay of its mouldering ſtone. It is on the ſite of an Abbey founded

founded by a Mercian king in favour of his daughter Werburgh, to whom, afterwards ſainted, the cathedral is dedicated. One of its tranſepts is parted off and uſed as a pariſh church. The greater part of the preſent edifice was erected in the reigns of Henry VII. and VIII. The chapter-houſe with its veſtibule is a more ancient and a truly beautiful ſtructure. St. John's church, which was once collegiate, has been a large and magnificent pile of Saxon architecture, but a great part of it has ſuffered demolition. The other churches offer nothing extraordinary. The biſhop's palace is a neat, plain ſtructure, forming one ſide of the Abbey Court, two others of which conſiſt of handſome, modern-built houſes.

The caſtle, ſituated above the river at the ſouth end of the town, ſtill affords ſome appearance of a fortreſs, though much dilapidated. It conſiſts of an upper and lower ward, the entrance to each protected by gates and round towers. Within the caſtle are the county goal, and the courts of juſtice. The latter have lately been taken down, and a new goal, ſhire-hall, &c. are building upon a much-approved and extenſive plan. The caſtle has a governor, lieutenant-governor, and conſtable, and is garriſoned by two companies of invalids.

The walls are one of the moſt pleaſing ſingularities of Cheſter, being the only ones in the kingdom, thoſe of Carliſle excepted, which are kept up entire. Their circuit is $1\frac{3}{4}$ mile and 101 yards, and they afford a walk on the top for two perſons abreaſt, without the neceſſity of deſcending at the gates over which the walk is carried. It is indeed ſolely for the purpoſe of pleaſure and recreation, and not of defence, that they are now maintained: and the extent and variety of proſpect enjoyed from them fully juſtify the inhabitants in their attention to preſerve

ſerve them in a neat and commodious ſtate. The Welch mountains, the Cheſhire hills of Broxton, and the inſulated rock of Beeſton crowned with its caſtle, the rich flat interpoſed, and the perpetually changing views of the river, are ſtriking objects in this favourite tour. Three of the arches which afford entrance to the city through the walls are ſpacious and elegant modern ſtructures. A ſmall duty paid on Iriſh linen imported is the principal ſource of revenue for ſupporting the walls. A conſiderable and populous part of the city, particularly on the eaſtern ſide, is without their circuit.

With reſpect to the character and conſequence of Cheſter as a town, it has long maintained nearly the ſame ſtation it at preſent occupies. It is principally diſtinguiſhed as a ſort of provincial metropolis, not only to its own county, but to the neighbouring counties of North Wales; many of the gentry of which, as well as other perſons diſengaged from buſineſs, from various parts, chuſe it as an agreeable reſidence, offering the pleaſures of cultivated ſociety on eaſy terms, with the advantage of polite education to their families. Its markets are well ſupplied with all articles both of neceſſity and luxury, and at a lower rate than in the trading and manufacturing towns of the neighbourhood. Very good fruit and vegetables of all kinds are grown in the ſpacious gardens underneath and within the walls. The city is ſupplied with water chiefly from the river by means of water-works at the bridge which raiſe the water into a reſervoir, whence pipes are laid into the houſes.

The commercial character of Cheſter is rather a ſecondary conſideration, nor have the attempts to make it participate in the benefits which its neighbours have received from the ſurpriſing increaſe of trade and manufactures been attended with much ſucceſs. It has, however, long been known

known as the great mart for Iriſh linens, which are brought over at its two noted fairs commencing on July 5th and October 10th, and ſold to a great amount to purchaſers from various parts of the kingdom. The quantity is reckoned at a million of yards each fair. For the better accommodation of the linen merchants, a new hall was built in the year 1778, which is a handſome ſquare brick building, containing 111 ſhops, and encloſing a ſpacious area. At theſe fairs are ſold large quantities of other commodities, as Yorkſhire cloths, Welch flannels, cheeſe, horſes, cattle, &c. but the reſort to them is leſs than formerly, as is the caſe with all other fairs.

The only manufacture of conſequence in Cheſter is that of gloves, which is carried on to ſome extent. There are alſo a ſmall manufactory of tobacco pipes, an iron foundry, ſnuff mills, ſhip builder's yards, and other concerns, which afford ſome employment; but the poor in general are occupied only in the common trades and labours belonging to a town inhabited by families of opulence.

Cheſter, as has already been noted, is an ancient port; but the great breadth of the eſtuary of the Dee, and the comparative ſmallneſs of the body of water flowing through it, rendered it liable to be choaked up with ſand thrown in by the tide. This gradually took place to ſuch a degree in the laſt century, that in the year 1674, veſſels of twenty tons could ſcarcely reach the town, and ſhips of burthen were obliged to lie under Newton, ten miles lower down, which was the origin of that aſſemblage of houſes on the adjacent ſhore, called *Park-gate*, ſtill the ſtation of the Iriſh packets. In that year, a plan was formed by Mr. Andrew Yarranton to make a new channel for the river, and at the ſame time to recover a large tract of land from the ſea by embankment. It

was

was not, however, till the middle of the preſent century, that the project was put into execution. A company was formed for the purpoſe, and different powers were granted by various acts of parliament; but the firſt operations were ſo expenſive, that numbers of ſubſcribers were obliged to ſell out at above 90 per cent. loſs. At length, the ſhares falling into the hands of fewer and wealthier perſons, the plan was brought to a conſiderable degree of utility, and a fine canal has been made, protected by vaſt banks, in which the river is confined for the ſpace of ten miles, with ſuch a depth of water as to allow veſſels of 350 tons burthen to come up to the quays at ſpring tides. This canal opens from the ſea a little above Flint. A ſmall canal from Sir John Glynne's collieries at Aſton, near Harwarden, joins the other about two miles below Cheſter. At the ſame time, croſs embankments have been made, which have gained much land from the ; ſea and flouriſhing farms are now ſeen where formerly were nothing but bare ſands, covered each tide by the water. Two ferries acroſs the new canal make a communication with the oppoſite county of Wales. The medium height of ſpring tides at the quays is fifteen feet; the greateſt, twenty-one feet. The river juſt above the bridge is croſſed by a ſtone cauſeway, which cauſes a fall of thirteen feet, and cuts off conſtant communication by veſſels between the upper part of the river and the lower. There are, however, ſix or eight tides which flow over the cauſeway, and ſome reach upwards of twenty miles up the country, which allows a navigation for ſmall barges as far as Bangor. The cauſeway ſerves as a dam for the purpoſe of turning mills. The ſnuff mills are ſituated directly upon it, and the town corn mills, which are reckoned extremely complete in their conſtruction, cloſe to the bridge, one arch of which conveys a ſtream for their uſe.

The

The maritime buſineſs of Cheſter is of no great extent. It chiefly conſiſts of the coaſting and Iriſh trades, with a ſmall portion of trade to foreign parts. The commodities imported are, groceries from London; linen cloth, wool, hides, tallow, feathers, butter, proviſions, and other articles from Ireland; timber, deals, hemp, flax, iron, and tallow from the Baltic; kid and lamb-ſkins from Leghorn; fruit, oil, barilla, and cork, from Spain and Portugal, and a large quantity of wine from the latter, which is the principal article of foreign import. Its exports are coal, lead, lead ore, calamine, copper plates, caſt iron, and large quantities of cheeſe; and it is a ſort of magazine for a variety of goods, raw and manufactured, ſent to Ireland. From the large cheeſe warehouſe in the river, veſſels go at ſtated periods with loads for London. The number of ſhips belonging to this port, notwithſtanding the above enumeration of commercial objects, is very ſmall; yet the limits of the port extend on the Cheſhire ſide of the Dee as far as the end of Wirral, and on the Flintſhire ſide to the mouth of the river Clwyd. The buſineſs of ſhip-building is carried on here continually, and with advantage, many veſſels from 100 to 500 tons being built yearly. Theſe are reckoned to be ſuperior in point of ſtrength and beauty to thoſe built at any other port in the kingdom. The materials are entirely Britiſh oak.

The canal from Namptwich, which was expected to add much to the trade of this city, but the miſerable failure of which has been already mentioned, (ſee page 127) enters the river below the quay, after paſſing under the north ſide of the walls. The new Elleſmere canal is intended to paſs on the weſt ſide of the city, and after communicating with the Dee, to proceed to join the Merſey. It is hoped this may open new ſources of trade which may prove advantageous to this ancient

cient port. That part of it which forms the communication between the Dee and Merſey is already finiſhed.

The population of Cheſter and its ſuburbs was found, on an enumeration in 1774, to be as follows:—families, 3428; male inhabitants, 6697; female do. 8016; total, 14,713; and by calculations drawn from the bills of mortality, its proportional healthineſs appeared to be greater than that of almoſt any other large town to which it was compared. But this was doubtleſs in part owing to the much leſs proportion of the loweſt claſs of poor than that in manufacturing towns, among whom the great principles of increaſe and decreaſe are to be looked for. In Cheſter the *births* are equally as diſproportionate as the *deaths* to the exiſting number.

The government of this city is veſted in a corporation, conſiſting of a mayor, recorder, two ſheriffs, twenty-four aldermen, and forty common councilmen, two of whom are leave-lookers, whoſe office it is to inform of all perſons exerciſing trades within the city without being freemen. The two ſenior officers are murengers, or receivers of the murage duties for maintaining the walls. Two are treaſurers, who are uſually next in ſucceſſion to the mayor. There are likewiſe a ſword and mace bearer, and the other uſual inferior officers.

The right of election into the corporation was by a charter of king Henry VII. confirmed by queen Elizabeth, declared to be in the citizen-freemen; but this right being ſuppoſed to be abrogated by a new charter in the reign of Charles II. the corporation aſſumed the excluſive privilege of electing into their own body. About fifteen years ago, Mr. John Eddowes, a very reſpectable citizen, ſupported by other citizen-freemen,

freemen, inſtituted a ſuit in the court of King's-bench againſt an alderman and common-councilman thus elected; whoſe cauſe being defended by their brethren, came to a hearing, and was decided in favour of the corporation: but Mr. Eddowes removing the cauſe by appeal to the Houſe of Lords, after a long and ſolemn hearing, the former verdict was reverſed, and a decree made, that the old charter of Henry VII. was the only legal one. Both ſides were adjudged to pay their coſts, which to Mr. Eddowes and his friends amounted to £.300; and the corporation continued to elect as before.

The law courts of the city are the courts of Crown-mote and Port-mote, and the Seſſions, all held in the Exchange. In the Port-mote the mayor, aſſiſted by the recorder, holds pleas to any amount. He alſo holds the ſeſſions of peace, in which criminals are tried, with the power of paſſing ſentence of death. There is another court, held at the *Pentice*, an ancient building at the centre of the city, in which the ſheriffs are judges; this is for civil cauſes only. The city goal is in the North-gate. In the Exchange, which is a large, handſome pile of building ſupported on columns, the body corporate hold their aſſemblies for public buſineſs, and the elections of mayors and other officers. Here likewiſe the mayors give their entertainments, and the citizens have their dancing aſſemblies.

The city returns two members to parliament, choſen by the freemen at large, in number about 1000. The ſheriff is returning officer; the chief intereſt is in the Groſvenor family.

The limits of the city liberties extend to a circumference of about eight miles. A fine meadow lying between the walls and the river, called

called the *Rood-eye*, is uſed as a common paſture for the citizens, and alſo for a race-ground, for which purpoſe it is admirably adapted, lying like an amphitheatre immediately beneath the walls, and alſo commanded by the high banks on the oppoſite ſide of the river.

Cheſter contains, beſides the cathedral, the following churches:

St. Oſwald, (in the cathedral)
St. John Baptiſt,
St. Peter,
Trinity,
St. Bridget,
St. Michael,
St. Mary,
St. Olave,
St. Martin.

It has ſix places of worſhip for diſſenters, viz. one Preſbyterian, two Independent, one Quaker, one Methodiſt, and one Catholic.

Of the charitable inſtitutions of Cheſter, the Blue-coat Hoſpital, ſituated near the North-gate, deſerves particular mention. It was founded by biſhop Stratford in 1706; and was devoted to the complete maintenance of thirty-five boys for four years, at the expiration of which they were put out apprentices: but in the year 1781, when the income of the hoſpital received an augmentation, it was propoſed, inſtead of adding to the number of thoſe educated in the houſe, to take ſixty more as out-ſcholars, to be taught reading, writing, and ſome arithmetic. This propoſal was accompliſhed in 1783, and was attended with ſuch good effects, that the number was afterwards doubled. Theſe 120 are taught by two maſters; and the whole annual expence of each boy in teaching, books, and a green cap, amounts to no more than 14s. They are received at nine years of age, and when they are of two years ſtanding, fifteen of the beſt are annually elected in-

in-ſcholars for two years; and thoſe not elected remain out-ſcholars two years more. By this plan, the benefits of a good education are extended to one-third of all the boys in Cheſter. There is likewiſe a blue-ſchool for a ſmaller number of girls, both out and in-ſcholars, which is ſupported by ladies.

Another uſeful charity is one for thirty decayed freemen of ſixty years of age and upwards, who receive £.4 yearly, and a gown every third year. There are likewiſe various alms-houſes in the city.

The Infirmary, erected in 1761, and ſupported by ſubſcriptions from the town and county and North Wales, is a very well-conducted inſtitution of the kind. Its utility has lately been increaſed by allowing the admiſſion of fever-patients to a ward ſet apart for them, and carefully prevented from communicating infection to the reſt of the houſe.

In the year 1778 a charitable inſtitution of a kind before unknown in the kingdom was ſet on foot in Cheſter. Its objects were, to prevent the Natural Small-pox in Cheſter, and to promote General Inoculation at ſtated periods. A ſet of rules were drawn up to be obſerved whenever the ſmall-pox ſhould break out, both by the families where it appeared, and by the neighbours, and rewards were annexed to the obſervance of them. Subſcriptions were liberally raiſed for the purpoſes of this ſociety, and in a courſe of four or five years, it was found by various trials that the rules were ſufficient to ſtop the contagion of the ſmall-pox when faithfully obſerved: but the obſtinacy and ſupineneſs of the people, and their rejection of the offer of free inoculation, cauſed the ſcheme at length to be given up. The attempt, however, has

has given birth to two very intereſting publications of Dr. Haygarth, which may prove the foundation of more extenſive future plans to extirpate this fatal diſeaſe. They are entitled, *An Inquiry how to prevent the Small-pox*; and *A Sketch of a Plan to exterminate the Small-pox from Great Britain, &c.*

WREXHAM.

FROM Cheſter we ſhall make a ſmall excurſion out of the county, to a town much connected with it in trade, and at a ſhort diſtance from the Cheſhire border; *Wrexham*, in the county of Denbigh. This is the largeſt town in North Wales, and its pariſh the moſt populous. Its ancient name of *Wrighteſham* ſhews it to have been of Saxon origin; and its language and appearance have always been more thoſe of an Engliſh than a Welch town. Mr. Pennant has been able to trace its exiſtence no farther back than the time of the laſt earl Warren, who had a grant of it. Leland mentions it as a place where there were ſome merchants and good buckler-makers.

The church of Wrexham is popularly called one of the wonders of North Wales. It was erected in the reign of Henry VII., and is a magnificent and highly ornamented pile of building. The inſide of the church is very ſpacious, and conſiſts of a nave, two aiſles, and a chancel. Above the pillars are many groteſque carvings in ridicule of monks and nuns, and over the arches of the nave are many of the arms of the old Britiſh and Saxon princes. There are various monuments in the

the church, of which the moſt ſtriking is a modern one in memory of Mrs. Mary Middleton, daughter of Sir Richard Middleton of Chirk-caſtle, repreſenting her as burſting from the tomb at the ſound of the laſt trumpet. There is alſo an elegant monument by Roubillac, of the Rev. Mr. Thomas Middleton and his wife, repreſenting their faces on a medallion in profile, with a delicate curtain hanging on one ſide. The outſide of the church has a great variety of groſs and ludicrous ſculpture. The ſteeple is a fine tower, richly ornamented on three ſides with rows of ſaints placed in gothic niches. Among them is St. Giles, the patron of the church, with the hind, by which, according to the legend, he was miraculouſly fed in the deſert. At each corner of the ſteeple is a light turret with a winding ſtaircaſe, twenty-four feet high. The whole height of the ſteeple is 135 feet. The church is a vicarage, formerly an impropriation belonging to the abbey of Valle Crucis, but ſince reſtored to the ſee of St. Aſaph. It has two chapels under it; *Minera*, or *Mwyn glawdd*, (*Mine upon the ditch*, that of Offa running by it) in the mountainous part of the pariſh; and *Berſe* or *Berſham*, a recent foundation. Wrexham has a free-ſchool, endowed with £.10 a year, paid by the mayor of Cheſter, being the bequeſt of Valentine Broughton, alderman of that city.

Wrexham has weekly markets on Monday and Thurſday; the laſt, the principal, which is well ſupplied with proviſions of all kinds, brought in by the neighbouring farmers. About thirty-eight years ſince the prices were as low, probably, as in any part of the kingdom. A fat ſtubble gooſe alive might be bought for 1*s.*; beef at 1½*d.* per pound; mutton in proportion; and freſh butter at 3½*d.* per pound. This laſt article, however, roſe in ſeven years from that time to double the price, which

which was owing to its being carried to the markets of Cheſter and Liverpool, and to the increaſed conſumption in conſequence of the prevalence of tea-drinking. The prices in 1795 are little different from thoſe of other country towns; mutton 5*d.* per pound, beef 4*d.*, butter 11*d.* The wages of day-labourers are 6*s.* in winter, and 7*s.* in ſummer, having only been increaſed 1*s.* during the laſt thirty years, notwithſtanding the vaſt riſe of proviſions, and a proportional advance in houſe rent and the price of coals.

The people of Wrexham moſtly make their own bread, which is compoſed of wheat, barley, and a little rye: this mixture, baked in large loaves, makes excellent brown bread. It is fermented by a leaven conſiſting of a piece of the former dough turned ſour.

Wrexham enjoys a good deal of the ſhop-keeping trade into Wales; but its great importance in a commercial view ariſes from its noted annual fair in the month of March, which laſts nine days; the three laſt, however, being chiefly employed in packing up the goods. This fair is frequented from almoſt all parts of the kingdom, and purchaſers flock to it, from North Wales in particular, in ſuch crowds, that the town is filled to a degree ſcarcely to be conceived by any one who has not ſeen it. The commodities brought by the Welch are chiefly flannels, linen, linſey-woolſey, and horſes and cattle in great abundance. Traders from other parts bring Iriſh linen, Yorkſhire and other woollen cloths, Mancheſter goods, Birmingham manufactures of all kinds, and ribands, for which laſt there is a great demand among the country people for fairings and rural finery. There are two ſquares or areas, the old and the new, for the accommodation of thoſe who have goods to ſell

in

in their little ſhops or booths. Here is alſo a convenient town-hall, where the aſſizes are held. The centre ſtreet, where the market is kept, is of conſiderable length, and proportionably wide; an uncommon circumſtance for an ancient town.

Two miles from Wrexham is *Berſham* iron-furnace, belonging to Meſſrs. John and William Wilkinſon. This concern was carried on about thirty-four years ago by Mr. Wilkinſon, ſen. in company with one ſon and ſome Liverpool gentlemen; but it proved unſucceſsful, partly in conſequence of the failure of an expenſive ſcheme to convey a blaſt by bellows from a conſiderable diſtance, to the works, by means of tubes under ground. It afterwards fell under the ſole management of Mr. John Wilkinſon, who, by means of very ingenious mechaniſm brought it to ſucceed in a wonderful manner, ſo that the works may be reckoned among the firſt of the kind in the kingdom. Beſides the ſmelting furnaces, there are now ſeveral air furnaces for re-melting the pig iron, and caſting it into various articles; ſuch as cylinders for fire engines, water-pipes, boilers, pots and pans of all ſizes, box and flat irons, and cannon and ball of all dimenſions. The cannon are now caſt ſolid, and bored like a wooden pipe, according to a very capital modern improvement. The ſmall ſtream here turns machinery for the boring of cannon, the grinding of flat and box irons, &c. There are alſo forges for malleable iron, and wire works; and likewiſe a newly-erected braſs foundry. All theſe works employ a great number of hands in various departments. At a ſhort diſtance, lead ore is got in conſiderable quantities, and ſmelted upon the ſpot; and Meſſrs. Wilkinſons have a work for the caſting of lead pipes of various ſizes, and drawing them out to any lengths. Iron-ſtone and coal are alſo plentiful in this neighbourhood.

A num-

A number of waggons are conſtantly employed in carrying goods between Berſham furnace and Cheſter, which being fourteen miles land carriage, is attended with a great expence. But this inconvenience will be removed by means of the Elleſmere canal, which is to paſs by theſe works; and a cut from it, called Brumbo-branch, will go to a new and large iron foundry now erecting by Mr. John Wilkinſon, who has alſo great iron works in Shropſhire. This canal will be of the greateſt ſervice to this part of the country, which yields the fine blue ſlate, limeſtone of the whiteſt kind and ſtrongeſt quality, and excellent coals in large blocks, all at preſent carried in ſummer to the diſtance of twenty or thirty miles by land-carriage at a great expence.

The farms in the neighbourhood of Wrexham are in general of a moderate ſize, though there are ſome very large dairy ones, capable of keeping cows ſufficient to make a large cheeſe every day, of equal goodneſs with the Cheſhire, and ſold as ſuch. Many ſmall farmers and cottagers who keep teams for drawing coal-carts or other work, have the practice of collecting the ſprouts or ſoft top branches of young gorſe or furze, which they chop ſmall on a block by means of a mallet having a croſs ſharp knife on its face; this they give as fodder to their horſes, either alone, or mixed with a ſmall quantity of oats. It is found to keep them in good heart, and give them a ſleek coat; and the practice deſerves to be better known than it is in other parts. Moſt of the horſes employed in winding up the coal from the pits are alſo fed in this manner. The greater part of the pariſh of Wrexham is either flat, or compoſed of gentle riſings, affording many very fertile and pleaſant ſituations, inhabited by an uncommon number of gentry diſtinguiſhed for their hoſpitable mode of living. The beauties of *Erthig*, the ſeat of Philip Yorke, Eſq. at a ſmall diſtance from Wrexham, are well

well known to the viſitors of this romantic tract of country. The houſe is ſituated upon a delightful eminence, commanding a moſt pleaſing view, and the lands are bounded by two little vales, watered by a pretty ſtream, and bordered by hanging woods.

A great dike or foſs, called *Wat's Dike*, and vulgarly the *Devil's Ditch*, runs through the pariſh, and by Erthig. It is a deep, wide ditch, encloſed between two high banks made of the earth thrown out, and which are now in many parts covered with trees of the largeſt growth. This work accompanies at irregular diſtances the better known entrenchment called *Offa's Dike*.

The road from Wrexham to Cheſter, 11½ miles, is a very fine one. It paſſes by the village of *Gresford*, diſtinguiſhed by a very handſome church, built in the ſame reign with that of Wrexham, and poſſeſſing a fine ring of twelve bells, reckoned one of the wonders of Wales. Beneath the church is a moſt beautiful little valley, affording a landſcape perfect in its kind—a model of rural elegance and retirement. Near this place is the beautiful cottage of Mrs. Warrington, and the houſe lately built by Mr. James Wyatt, for John Parry, Eſq.

The following liſt of gentlemens' ſeats at the diſtance of from one to twelve miles from Wrexham, will give an idea of the beauties of this part of the country.

Lord Dacre, - - - - -	Plas Tneg.
Lord Kenyon, - - - - -	Gredington.
Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart. - - -	Wynnſtay.
Sir Foſter Cunliffe, Bart. - - -	Acton Park.

Philip

Philip Yorke, Eſq. - - - -	Erthig.
William Lloyd, Eſq. - - -	Plas Power.
Sir Thomas Hanmer, Bart. - - -	Bettisfield Park.
Ll. G. Wardle, - - - -	Hartſheath.
John Humberſton, Eſq. - - -	Grewſilt Park.
John Parry, Eſq. - - - -	Gresford Lodge.
Peter Whitehall Davies, Eſq. - -	Broughton.
Trevor Lloyd, Eſq. - - - -	Trevor.
William Owen, Eſq. - - - -	Plas Kynaſton.
Rev. Thomas Youde, - - - -	Plas Madoc.
Richard Puleſton, Eſq. - - -	Emrall.
Philip Lloyd Fletcher, Eſq. - -	Gwernhaylid.
——— Price, Eſq. (minor) - -	Bryn y pys.
Roger Kenyon, Eſq. - - - -	Cefn.
——— Wilſon, Eſq. - - -	Trevallyn.
Richard Myddleton, Eſq. - - -	Chirk Caſtle.
——— Lloyd, Eſq. - - -	Penyllan.
——— Meredith, Eſq. - - -	Pentre bwchan.
Richard Hill Waring, Eſq. - -	Leeſwood.
Lady Glynne, - - - - -	Hawarden Caſtle.
Rev. Dr. Puleſton, - - - -	Pickhill.
Lord Dungannon, - - - -	Bryn kynalt.
Rev. J. W. Eyton, - - - -	Leeſwood.
Thomas Apperley, Eſq. - - -	Plas Grwnyo.
David Pennant, Eſq. - - - -	Roſe Hill.
Thomas Brown, Eſq. - - -	Marchwiel.
——— Jones, Eſq. - - -	Llwynon.
Frederick Philips, Eſq. - - -	Rhyddyn.
Edward Eyton, Eſq. - - - -	Eyton.

Broxton Hundred.

THIS hundred, which was called at the time of the Conqueſt Du-, deſtan hundred, ſtretches on the eaſtern bank of the Dee to the ſouth of Cheſter, as far the ſouth-weſtern corner of the county.

About two miles from Cheſter, on the Frodſham road, is *Hoole-heath*, noted for having been an aſylum eſtabliſhed by Hugh Lupus, and particularly allotted to fugitives from Wales.

About the ſame diſtance from Cheſter, on the London road, is the pleaſing village of *Chriſtleton*, the manor of which was held before the Conqueſt by earl Edwin, and after that period was beſtowed by Hugh Lupus on Robert Fitzhugh, one of his followers.

The village of *Eccleſton* is pleaſantly ſituated on the Dee, commanding a fine view of the towers and ſpires of Cheſter, riſing above the wooded banks. It was held after the Conqueſt by a Venables: it is now the property of the Groſvenors.

At a ſmall diſtance from Cheſter is *Eaton*, a hamlet on the Dee, in which is ſituated the family ſeat of the *Groſvenors*. The houſe is of brick, built about the latter end of the laſt century. The ancient family of Groſvenors came in with the Conqueſt, and took their name from the office of chief huntſman, which they bore in the Norman court. Their firſt ſettlement in this county was at Over Loſtock, beſtowed

ſtowed by Hugh Lupus on his great nephew, Robert le Groſvenour. In 1234, Richard le Groſvenour fixed his ſeat at Hulme; but in the reign of Henry VI. it was transferred to this place by the marriage of Rawlin, or Ralph Groſvenour, with Joan, daughter of John Eaton, of Eaton, Eſq.

Near Eaton is *Aldford* bridge, over the Dee, forming a communication between the two parts of the hundred.

Further ſouth is the little town of *Farn*, or *Farndon*, on the Dee, called in Doomſday-book *Ferenton*. Its church was burnt by the parliament army during the ſiege of Holt caſtle, in 1645, and afterwards rebuilt. In one window, over the pew of the family of Barnſton, is ſome beautiful painted glaſs, repreſenting a commander in his tent, ſurrounded with military inſtruments. Around theſe are ſixteen figures of ſoldiery of different ranks, and over the heads of the officers are coats of arms belonging to ſeveral Cheſhire families of loyaliſts during the civil wars. This town is parted only by an ancient ſtone-bridge from that of *Holt*, in Denbighſhire, famous for its caſtle, which was demoliſhed after the parliament had obtained poſſeſſion of it.

Not far diſtant from hence, along a flat country, having a pleaſing view of the Broxton hills, is *Shocklach*, where was an ancient caſtle, held after the Conqueſt by Robert Fitzhugh. It belonged to the barony of Malpas. Nothing except a foſs marks out its ſite. On the the oppoſite ſide of the road is a great mount, probably of much greater antiquity than the caſtle, and once uſed as an exploratory ſtation.

The

The only market town of this hundred is

MALPAS,

A ſmall town, ſituated at the ſouth-weſtern corner of the county, near the detached part of Flintſhire, which is ſaid to have derived its name from the bad roads by which it is approached. It was an ancient barony, and had a caſtle, of which there are now no remains. From one of its barons, who took the name of Cholmondeley from the lordſhip ſo called, is deſcended the preſent earl of Cholmondeley, with which title is joined that of viſcount Malpas. The town has a grammar-ſchool, and a charitable eſtabliſhment, both founded by Sir Randle Brereton. Its market is on Monday, and it has an annual fair in December. The church is a fine one, endowed with large revenues, which maintain two rectors and two curates. In the church is a family vault belonging to earl Cholmondeley, in which a long race of his anceſtors lie entombed.

Cholmondeley-hall, the ancient ſeat of this family, with its park, is a little to the north-eaſt of Malpas.

NAMPTWICH HUNDRED.

THIS hundred, the moſt ſoutherly in Cheſhire, is divided into two nearly equal parts by the river Weaver, and is diſtinguiſhed by the fertility of its paſtures, and the richneſs of its dairies. Its capital is the town whence it takes its name,

NAMPT-

NAMPTWICH.

THIS town is ſituated near the borders of Staffordſhire and Shropſhire, in a fertile vale on the banks of the Weaver, near a ſmall ſtream. It is ſurrounded by ſome of the fineſt dairy land in the county, in which the richeſt and largeſt of the Cheſhire cheeſes are made. The town is ancient, and was erected into a barony by Hugh Lupus, who beſtowed it on William de Malbedeng or de Malbang, a Norman chieftain, from whom it obtained the name of *Wich Malbang*. The barony was afterwards ſplit into ſmall parcels, which was probably the cauſe why the town was never incorporated. At preſent it confers the title of baron upon the earl of Cholmondeley, who has tolls of cattle, roots and fruit ſold in it. Mr. Crewe, of Crewe, the patron of the church, has the tolls of corn and fiſh.

Namptwich was formerly reckoned the ſecond town in the county, but has been out-ſtript by ſome others which have obtained more benefit from the modern increaſe of manufactures. It contains more than 600 houſes, moſtly old, diſpoſed in ſpacious ſtreets. It has a plentiful weekly market on Saturday, and three annual fairs, in March, September, and December. It is governed by conſtables. The church is a very handſome pile, in form of a croſs, with an octagonal tower in the centre. The eaſt and weſt windows are filled with elegant tracery. The roof of the chancel is of ſtone, adorned with ſculpture. The ſtalls are neat, and are ſaid to have been brought from the abbey of Vale Royal at the diſſolution. The living is a ſmall vicarage. In the ſtreet called the Welch Row were anciently two hoſpitals, now entirely deſtroyed. A large houſe near the end of it, called *Town's-end*, was till lately

lately the reſidence of the reſpectable family of Wilbraham, one of whom, Thomas Wilbraham, Eſq. had the honour of entertaining king James I. when he made a viſit to this town. There are in the town various alms-houſes founded by the Wilbrahams and other charitable inhabitants. There is a free-ſchool, founded by John and Thomas Thruſh, natives of this place, who exerciſed the trade of wool-packers in London. Another ſchool, where forty boys are cloathed and taught Engliſh, called the blue-caps, has been ſupported chiefly by the family of Wilbraham, aided by the liberality of the Crewe family. In the year 1780 was erected a large and commodious workhouſe within that part of the townſhip called *Beam-heath*, and within the barony thereof, in conſequence of a grant from the earl of Cholmondeley.

The chief trade of Namptwich is in ſhoes, which are ſent to London. It has a ſmall manufacture of gloves; but thoſe of bone-lace and ſtockings, once conſiderable, are now loſt. The tanning buſineſs was a ſource of much wealth to the town in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I.

Namptwich is one of the ſalt towns, commonly called the *Wiches*; and ſeems formerly to have been one of the principal of them. In the reign of Elizabeth here were 216 ſalt works, of ſix *leads-walling* each.* At preſent there are only two works of five large pans of wrought iron. The Britons, Romans, and Saxons ſeem ſucceſſively to have procured ſalt from the brine pits here, and various laws and uſages have prevailed from old times reſpecting the working of them. It was hoped that the Cheſter canal to this place (which terminates in a handſome broad baſon near the Acton road) would have increaſed its ſalt trade to the be-

* Probably, at *all* the ſalt towns.

nefit

nefit of both towns; but the other ſalt towns lie more convenient for commerce, and abound almoſt to exceſs with that commodity.

Namptwich was the only town in Cheſhire which adhered to the parliament from the beginning to the end of the civil wars of Charles I. It ſtood a ſevere ſiege in 1643 from Lord Byron, in which its garriſon defended themſelves with great obſtinacy, though the place was poorly fortified, and repelled ſome attacks with much loſs to the beſiegers. It was at length relieved by the ſignal victory obtained over the beſieging forces by the army commanded by Sir Thomas Fairfax. This town was the reſidence of the widow of Milton during the latter part of her life. She was the daughter of Mr. Minſhull, of Stoke, in this neighbourhood.

Near Namptwich is the village of *Acton*, a conſiderable place as far back as the Saxon times. At the Conqueſt it was a member of the barony of Namptwich. It came ſucceſſively to the Lovels, the Arderns, and the Wilbrahams, and at preſent belongs to the Hon. Wilbraham Tollemache. It has a handſome new-built church, containing ſome curious and well-preſerved monuments of the Mainwaring and Wilbraham families.

Wyburnbury, a village on the London road, is ſuppoſed to have taken its name from Wibba, ſecond king of the Mercians. The manor was anciently in the family of the Praers, from whom it came to the biſhops of Litchfield and Coventry, who are ſtill patrons of the living. The church is a very handſome building, embattled and pinnacled. It contains various monuments in memory of the Delves's of Doddington; and likewiſe a magnificent one of Sir Thomas Smith, of the Hough.

At

At the ancient hall of *Doddington* are preſerved the ſtatues of lord Audley and his four 'ſquires, Delves, Dutton, Foulhurſt, and Hawkeſton, all Cheſhire men, who obtained great renown at the battle of Poitiers.

Crewe-hall, the ſeat of the family of Crewe, was built by Sir Randle Crewe in the time of Charles I. who was the firſt perſon who brought a model of good building into this county. It is now occupied by John Crewe, Eſq. member of parliament for Cheſhire.

On the other ſide of Namptwich is *Baddiley-hall*, the ſeat of the Mainwarings.

Cumbermere-abbey, which takes its name from the adjacent mere, was formerly the ſite of an abbey of Ciſtercians, founded by Hugh Malbanc, lord of Namptwich. It now belongs to Sir Robert Saliſbury Cotton, Bart. member for the county, whoſe ſeat was built out of its remains.

EDDISBURY HUNDRED.

THIS diſtrict chiefly compriſes the tract lying between Broxton hundred, and the weſtern bank of the Weaver. A great part of it conſiſts of the foreſt of Delamere, which in the time of Leland was a fair and large foreſt abounding with red and fallow deer, but now is a black and dreary waſte, compoſed of deep ſand or ſteril heath, and chiefly inhabited by rabbits, with a few black terns which ſkim over the pools and plaſhes in ſome part of it. A few ſtunted trees remain near a place called *Chamber of the Foreſt*, once the centre of the woodland

land tract. Tradition reports that a large town once exiſted in this hundred, of the name of Eddiſbury; but at preſent it is thinly peopled, and contains no town of conſequence.

On entering it from Namptwich, one of the firſt places is *Bunbury*, a village with a pariſh church, which was formerly collegiate, on the foundation of that celebrated ſoldier of fortune, Sir Hugh de Calvely. This Cheſhire hero was born at Calvely, a neighbouring hamlet, and became a principal commander in the mercenary bands which ravaged Europe in the 14th century. He fought under the Engliſh general, lord Chandos, at the battle of Auray in 1364, in which the great Du Gueſclin was taken priſoner. He then ſerved in Spain, firſt againſt Peter the Cruel, and then for him, in the ſervice of the Black Prince. He afterwards became governor of Calais, and of Guernſey and the adjacent iſles, and was living in the reign of Henry IV. He has a magnificent tomb in Bunbury church, in which his effigy in white marble, armed, and of gigantic proportions, lies recumbent; and prodigious feats of ſtrength and proweſs are recorded of him in the popular tales of the time. In this church, which is a handſome embattled one, there are other ancient monuments. The old ſeat of Calvely now belongs to the Davenport family.

Somewhat further is

TARPORLEY,

A ſmall market-town ſituated ten miles from Cheſter on the London road. Its manor and rectory are divided into ſix ſhares, of which four belong to the Ardens; one to the dean and chapter of Cheſter; and one to Philip Egerton, Eſq. of Oulton. The living is a good one,

one, in the gift of John Arden, Eſq. The church is large, and contains ſeveral marble monuments. This town is chiefly remarkable for being the place where a number of the principal gentlemen of the county meet at an annual hunt, equally conſecrated to the pleaſures of conviviality and thoſe of the chace. The neighbouring open heaths of Delamere foreſt afford a favourable ground for the latter paſtime.

Cloſe within view of Tarporley, though at the diſtance of two miles ſouthwards, riſes the great inſulated rock of *Beeſton*, a moſt ſtriking object from the ſurrounding country. It is compoſed of ſandſtone, very lofty and precipitous at one end, and ſloping down to the flat on the other. Its height, from Beeſton-bridge to the ſummit, is 366 feet. From its top is a very extenſive view on every part, except where interrupted by the near approach of the Peckforton-hills. All the level country of Cheſhire, the city of Cheſter, and the eſtuaries of the Dee and Merſey, are diſtinctly ſeen from it. The creſt of the rock is crowned with the ruins of the famed *Beeſton-caſtle*, proverbial in theſe parts for its almoſt impregnable ſtrength. This fortreſs was firſt erected in 1220 by Randle Blundeville, earl of Cheſter. It devolved afterwards to the crown, and going through various viciſſitudes, the ſtory of which is not well known, it fell into ruins, in which ſtate it was found by Leland in the reign of Henry VIII. It was afterwards repaired, and partook of the changeable fate of ſo many other fortreſſes during the laſt civil wars. It was firſt garriſoned by the Parliament; then taken by the royaliſts under the command of the noted partizan, captain Sandford, who ſcaled the ſteep ſide of the rock, and took it by ſurprize or treachery. The parliament forces then beſieged it for ſeventeen weeks, but it held out to be relieved by prince Rupert. It was

again

again inveſted, and forced to ſurrender by famine after a vigorous defence of eighteen weeks. It was ſoon after diſmantled.

The fortreſs conſiſted of an outer and inner area. The outer came about midway of the ſlope, and was defended by a great gateway, and a ſtrong wall, fortified with round towers, which ran acroſs the ſlope from one edge of the precipice to the other, but did not ſurround the hill as repreſented in an old print. Some parts of this wall, and about ſix or ſeven rounders, with a ſquare tower of the gateway, ſtill ſubſiſt. The area encloſed is four or five acres. The caſtle itſelf is near the higheſt part of the rock, defended on the ſide of the area by a vaſt ditch cut out of the live rock, on the other ſide by a ſteep precipice. The entrance is through a noble gateway, guarded on each ſide by a great round tower with walls of a prodigious thickneſs. Within the yard are the remains of the chapel, a rectangular building. The draw-well was of ſurpriſing depth, being ſunk to the level of Beeſton-brook that runs beneath. In the outer area was another well. The perpendicular ſide of the rock from the caſtle has a tremendous appearance, and is haunted by a ſmall kind of hawk which builds in its clefts, and "wings the midway air."

Over, on the other ſide of the foreſt, though now an inſignificant village, retains the evidence of its having once been a conſiderable town, in its mayor, aldermen, and other corporate officers, ſtill elected according to charter, with great regularity. A little to the north of it, on the bank of the Weaver, is *Vale Royal*, once the ſite of a ſtately monaſtery of Ciſtercians, founded by Edward I. The houſe is ſaid to have been fifty-three years in building, and to have coſt £.32,000; an immenſe ſum

ſum in thoſe days! The name of Vale Royal included all the circumjacent tracts, and has by ſome been extended to all Cheſhire. The eſtate of the abbey was granted at the diſſolution to Thomas Holcroft, whoſe grandſon ſold it to the Holfords, from whom it came by marriage to the Cholmondeleys.

TARVIN.

A SMALL town on the border of Delamere foreſt on the Cheſhire ſide, had the privilege of a market obtained for it in the reign of queen Elizabeth, by Sir John Savage, to whom it was alienated from the biſhoprick of Litchfield. Its church, a rectory, ſtill continues part of the ſee of Litchfield, and is a prebend in that cathedral. Here is a monument of Mr. John Thomaſine, thirty-ſix years maſter of the grammar ſchool, who was diſtinguiſhed for his exquiſite ſkill in penmanſhip. He particularly excelled in copying the Greek characters; and many ſpecimens of his writing are preſerved in the cabinets of the curious, and public libraries.

FRODSHAM.

THIS is a very ſmall market-town, conſiſting chiefly of one wide ſtreet, ſituated beneath the hills which form the northern extremity of Delamere foreſt, and not far from the junction of the Weaver with the Merſey. A level, bounded by a large marſh, extends from the town to the latter river. Frodſham had formerly a caſtle, which, together with the town, was allotted by Edward I. to David, brother of Llewellyn, the laſt ſovereign of Wales. It was latterly uſed as a manſion by the Savages, earls Rivers, and was burned down in 1652. A handſome

ſome modern houſe now occupies its ſite, which is at the weſt end of the town, juſt beneath a high eminence.

The church of Frodſham ſtands on a very elevated ſituation above the town, in a part called Overton; and near it is a ſchool, with a good houſe for the maſter, on which is a cupola for an obſervatory. The proſpect from hence and the neighbouring eminences is very extenſive, commanding the eſtuary of the Merſey and its bordering marſhes, and the more diſtant parts of Lancaſhire beyond. The brow of a hill behind the ſchool, called Beacon-hill, is cut into a very pleaſant and ſtriking walk. At its foot are four ſhooting-buts for the practice of archery. The church regiſter of Frodſham exhibits two remarkable inſtances of longevity; on March 13, 1592, was buried Thomas Hough, aged 141; and on the next day, Randle Wall, aged 103.

Frodſham bridge, over the Weaver, is near a mile to the eaſt of the town. From a warehouſe near it, much cheeſe is ſhipped for Liverpool. A work for the refining of rock-ſalt is at ſome diſtance on the bank of the river. The channel here is deep and clayey, and a diſagreeable object at low water.

In the pariſh of Frodſham, potatoes are cultivated to a great extent. It is eſtimated, that not leſs than 100,000 buſhels of 90lb. weight each have annually, for ſome years paſt, been grown in it. They meet with a ready ſale in Lancaſhire, to which they find an eaſy conveyance by the river to Liverpool, and by the duke of Bridgewater's canal to Mancheſter.

Bucklow Hundred.

THIS hundred occupies the middle of the northern ſide of the county, from the junction of the Weaver and Merſey, to the border of Macclesfield hundred. On entering it from Frodſham, there appears to the right, on a high bank above the Weaver,

Aſton-hall, a large and handſome modern houſe, the ſeat of the ancient family of Aſton. To the left of it lies

RUNCORN PARISH.

THIS tract of country, lying to the eaſt of the river Weaver near its conflux with the Merſey, and thence for ſome miles upwards on the banks of the latter river, is well worthy of notice, from the variety of its ground and proſpects, and the objects of curioſity it contains. The firſt place that excites attention, after croſſing Frodſham bridge, is

Rock-Savage, a noble pile of ruins, emboſomed in wood, and ſeated on a riſing ground above the Weaver, facing towards Frodſham. This ſeat was built in the reign of queen Elizabeth by Sir John Savage. By the marriage of lady Elizabeth Savage, daughter and heireſs of Richard, earl Rivers, with James, earl of Barrymore, the houſe and eſtate paſſed into that family; but the poſſeſſion proved tranſient; for the marriage of his daughter, lady Penelope Barry, with general Cholmondeley, tranſferred it to a new race, and it is now poſſeſſed by the general's grand nephew, the earl of Cholmondeley. After the marriage, the place was neglected, and fell into ſuch ſpeedy decay, that a gentleman who was born in the houſe lived to draw a pack of fox hounds through it after

after their game. Part of the ſtately front, conſiſting of a fine gateway with a lofty turret on each ſide, is ſtill ſtanding, as well as part of one of the ſides. The reſt of the pile conſiſts only of foundation walls, broken vaults, and heaps of rubbiſh overgrown with weeds; the whole ſurrounded with encloſures of dilapidated walls. Few places in the kingdom recal more forcibly to the memory the very ſtriking lines of the poet Dyer deſcriptive of a ruined manſion:

'Tis now the raven's bleak abode;
'Tis now th' apartment of the toad;
And there the fox ſecurely feeds;
And there the poiſonous adder breeds,
Conceal'd in ruins, moſs, and weeds;
While, ever and anon there falls
Huge heaps of hoary moulder'd walls. *Grongar-Hill.*

In the time of the Barrymores, a large range of detached offices and ſtabling, in a more modern ſtyle than the main building, was erected, which is now converted to the uſes of a farm-houſe.

At a ſhort diſtance from hence, juſt oppoſite to the junction of the Weaver and Merſey, is the ſmall retired village of *Weſton*. From the brow overhanging the point of land where the rivers meet, is a very magnificent water-proſpect at full tide, when the broadeſt part of the eſtuary of the Merſey, ſtretching many miles before the eye, till it is completely land-locked by a turn in the channel, exhibits the appearance of an extenſive lake, bordered on the Cheſhire and Lancaſhire ſide by a variety of ground, partly naked, and partly finely wooded. The ſecluded ſituation of this ſpot, out of all courſe of roads, renders its beauties leſs known than they deſerve to be. Farther on, upon the bank of the Merſey, is ſituated

Runcorn,

Runcorn, a place well known as the termination of the duke of Bridgewater's canal in the Merſey. Its ſituation was judiciouſly choſen by the renowned Ethelfleda, queen of the Mercians, for the foundation of a town and caſtle, erected in the year 916; for here, by the projection of a tongue of land from the Lancaſhire ſide, the bed of the Merſey is ſuddenly contracted from a conſiderable breadth to a narrow channel, eaſily commanded from the ſhore. It was juſt oppoſite to this *gap*, as it is called, that Ethelfleda built the laſt of the range of caſtles by which ſhe protected the borders of her extenſive domain; and though no veſtiges of the building remain, its ſite is marked by the name of the *Caſtle*, given to a triangular piece of land, ſurrounded with a mound of earth, jutting out into the river, guarded on the water ſide by ledges of rocks and broken precipices, and cut off from the land by a ditch at leaſt ſix yards wide. This fortreſs in its entire ſtate muſt have afforded an excellent defence againſt the naval inroads of the Danes, who ran up the rivers with their fleets at that period, and committed the moſt cruel ravages. The parochial church of Runcorn ſtands above the caſtle-rock. Its foundation was, perhaps, co-eval with that of Ethelfleda's town; it was certainly prior to the Conqueſt, ſince Nigel, baron of Halton, beſtowed it, in the reign of the Conqueror, upon his brother Wolfrith, a prieſt. It became afterwards the property of Norton abbey, and on the diſſolution was given to Chriſt-church college, Oxford. An abbey of canons regular, or Auguſtins, was founded here by William, the ſon of Nigel, in 1133, which was removed by his ſon William, conſtable of Cheſter, to Norton.

The conſequence of Runcorn was loſt in the later reigns, and it ſunk into an obſcure village, from which it has emerged only ſince the completion of the duke of Bridgewater's navigation. The vaſt works formed

formed here, conſiſting of a grand ſeries of *all* the locks on his canal, through which it deſcends precipitouſly to the river, and which are ſupplied with water by vaſt baſons or reſervoirs, occaſioned a great conflux of workmen, and the conſequent building of a number of dwelling-houſes, inns, ſhops, &c. This hurry of buſineſs has ſince been kept up by the erection of wharfs, a ſea-wall, and an immenſe warehouſe, conſtructed upon a new and excellent plan. Vaſt quantities of good free-ſtone are likewiſe got out of the quarries in this place, which lie contiguous to the canal, and allow of the raiſing of blocks of great ſize, which are uſed in the works about the canal, and are alſo conveyed to different places in the courſe of it. At Mancheſter this ſtone is ſold at eight-pence the ſquare foot.

On account of theſe curioſities, Runcorn is much viſited by parties of pleaſure from the country round, ſome of whom make excurſions by water hence to Liverpool. It has likewiſe of late become a place of ſome reſort for ſalt-water bathing, for in ſpring tides the ſmall quantity of freſh water in the Merſey does not much dilute the ſtrength of the ſea-water flowing up this wide eſtuary; and the agreeable ſituation and good air of the place and its neighbourhood are uſeful auxiliaries to the effects of the bath. The ſhore here, and all round to Weſton point, is protected by a low ridge of rock riſing almoſt perpendicularly from the beach. The lovers of botany may find a pleaſing variety of plants, both maritime and inland, in the vicinity of this place.

A mile or two upwards from Runcorn are ſeated the ruins of *Halton-caſtle*, placed on a ſteep elevation, and forming a conſpicuous object from all this ſide of the country. Hugh Lupus, earl of Cheſter, gave the barony of Halton to Nigel, his relation and one of his officers, whom

whom he alſo made conſtable of Cheſter, and his marſhal; and the caſtle was probably founded by one of the two. The manor had large privileges conferred upon it; the town of Halton was created a free borough and market town, though now no more than a village. From the poſterity of Nigel it came to the houſe of Lancaſter, and was a favourite hunting ſeat of John of Gaunt. It is now a conſiderable member of the duchy of Lancaſter, having a large juriſdiction round it called Halton-fee, or the Honor of Halton, and poſſeſſing a court of record and various privileges. The caſtle has been in a ſtate of demolition ever ſince the civil wars of Charles I.; but there is a newer building, uſed as an inn, containing the court-houſe, and called a priſon, though now never uſed as ſuch. The earl of Cholmondeley is proprietor under the crown. It is, however, for the proſpect this place affords that it deſerves viſiting, which is without queſtion the moſt delightful in Cheſhire. Northwards, from ſide to ſide, the Merſey, winding through a fertile plain, may be diſtinctly traced from the neighbourhood of Warrington, where it is of the breadth of the Thames at Richmond, to its expanſion into a wide channel, contracted at Runcorn-gap, and then again dilating into the eſtuary which continues to the ſea. At low water the river is ſomewhat deformed by the extenſive ſandy ſhoals with which its bed is almoſt filled; but when the tide is in, and the ſcene is enlivened by a number of veſſels paſſing and re-paſſing, few water proſpects can be more pleaſing. Beyond the Merſey, the county of Lancaſter, appearing like a vaſt foreſt from the numerous hedge-row trees of its encloſures, extends till loſt in the diſtant hills of Lancaſhire and Yorkſhire. Weſtward, a large reach into Cheſhire, bounded by the Welch mountains, is ſeen, and immediately under the eye lie the ſcattered houſes and farms of Halton; while to the eaſt, the fine houſe and grounds of Norton, the ſeat of Sir Richard Brooke, afford a near

landſcape

landſcape of great beauty. Through the pleaſure grounds of Norton the duke of Bridgewater's canal is led in an elegantly winding courſe, and proceeding beneath Halton to Runcorn, adds another intereſting object to the proſpect.

Halton has a chapel, under the church of Runcorn, and a neat but ſmall library, left for public uſe, furniſhed chiefly with old books of hiſtory and divinity, ſome of them valuable.

The houſe at *Norton* is built upon the ſite of an ancient monaſtery of Auguſtines, the lands of which were conferred on the family of Brooke at the diſſolution.

On purſuing the courſe of the canal eaſtwards, we come to *Preſton-Brook*, near the village of Preſton-on-the-hill, where the duke of Bridgewater's canal, after paſſing a tunnel, enters the Staffordſhire navigation. Wharfs are erected here for ſtoring goods that go by land to Frodſham, Cheſter, and parts adjacent, either brought from Mancheſter, or landed from the Staffordſhire canal. The banks of the canal are covered with heaps of flint brought by ſea for the uſe of the potteries. The paſſage boats from Mancheſter come as far as this place.

The next remarkable ſtation on the duke of Bridgewater's canal is *Stockton quay*, at London bridge, a mile and a half from Warrington. This is a buſy ſcene of traffic from the quantity of goods ſhipped and landed at its warehouſes, which lie upon the great London road from the north through Cheſhire. A number of carriages are alſo generally in waiting to convey the paſſengers who land here from Mancheſter in their

their way to Warrington, and thence by the coaches to Liverpool, &c. The ſoil hereabouts is a deep ſand, which renders the roads very heavy.

Not far from this place riſes the pretty eminence called *Hill-Cliff*, ending precipitouſly towards the north, to which quarter it affords a very pleaſing proſpect of the canal, the Merſey, the town of Warrington, and all the flat part of Lancaſhire as far as the Yorkſhire hills. The ſides of the hill are cloathed with plantations, and its ſummit is crowned with a ſummer-houſe, making a pictureſque object from the ſubjacent country. A neighbouring hill over which the London road paſſes has a large quarry of a red grit-ſtone.

The village of *Lymm* is a beautiful object in the courſe of the canal, which is here carried at a great height over a ſtream, forming a mill dam, and turning a mill for ſlitting iron and flattening it into hoops for the cooper's uſe. There are ſeveral good houſes in the village, and the ſituation of the parſonage houſe, above a deep and romantic valley, is much admired. In Lymm is an ancient croſs of Gothic architecture.

KNUTSFORD.

THIS is the principal town of Bucklow hundred. It is divided as it were into two towns, called High and Low Knutsford. By a charter granted in the reign of Edward I. it appears that William de Tableigh was lord of both of them. The lordſhip is now in the duke of Bridgewater. The market-day is Saturday. The upper town has a fair on Tueſday in Whitſun week; and the lower has two, in June and October.

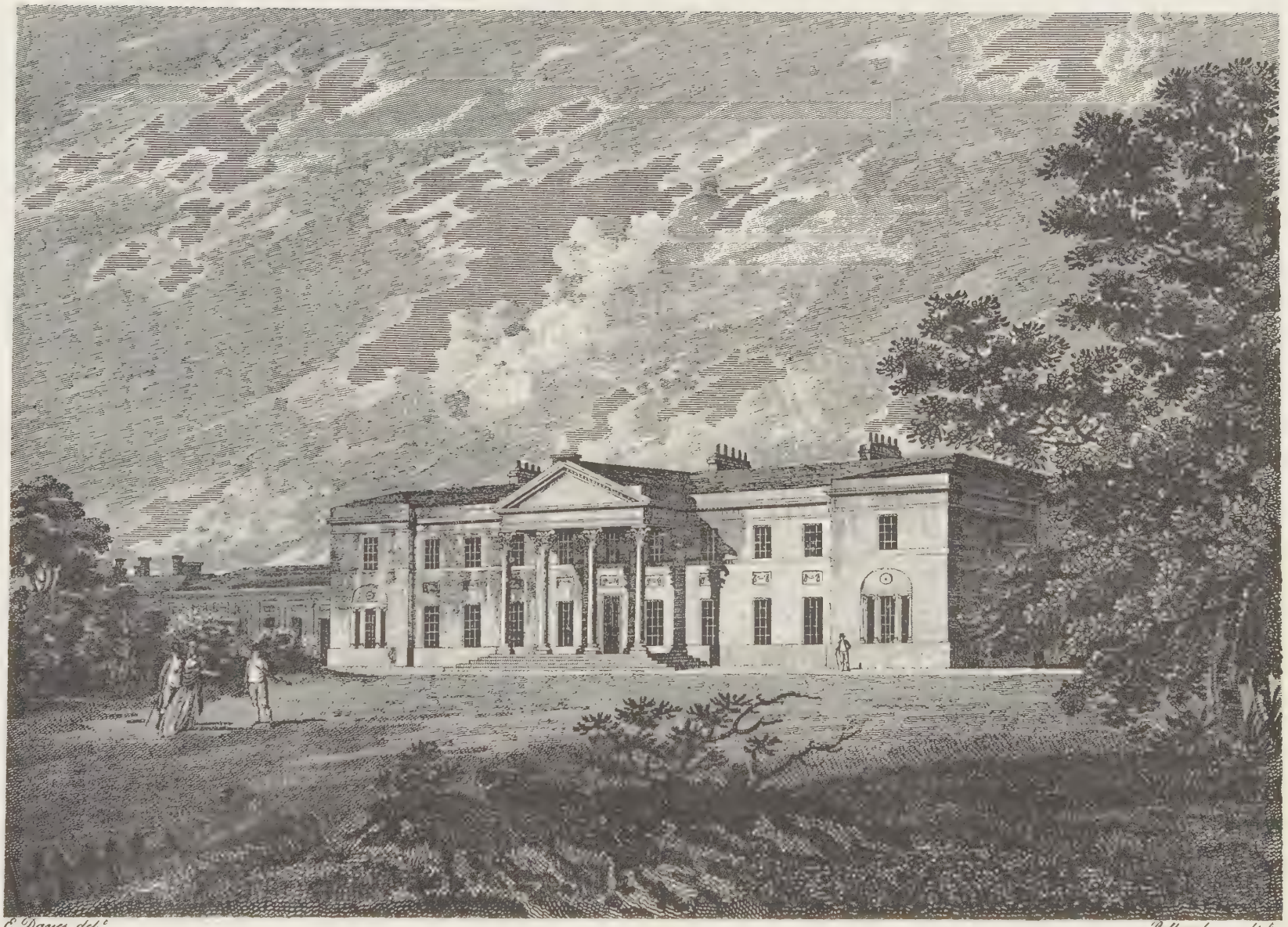
Knutsford

Knutsford is a neat town, containing betwixt two and three thouſand inhabitants. It has never been a place of much trade. Its principal manufacture has been that of thread, for which it was long noted. A ſmall portion of the flax uſed in this manufacture is grown in Yorkſhire, but the bulk of it is brought from Ireland, Ruſſia, and Hamburgh. A few years ago it was almoſt entirely brought in its raw ſtate, and was ſpun in Knutsford and its neighbourhood; but ſince the increaſe of the cotton trade, the flax ſpinners have been led to engage in this more lucrative employment, and the flax is now principally ſpun abroad, and is brought to Knutsford in the ſtate of yarn. This manufacture, of courſe, employs much fewer hands than formerly. The thread is ſent to the different parts of England, and ſome to America.

About twenty-five years ſince, a large building was erected in the town for doubling and twiſting of ſilk for the uſe of the London manufacturers. It was uſed for this purpoſe for ſome years, and employed a conſiderable number of hands; but not being found to anſwer, the employment was diſcontinued. The building has ſince been uſed for the ſpinning of cotton, a branch of trade in which, within theſe few years, this town has partaken, though in no conſiderable degree; and, indeed, ſince the late check given to trade, very few hands are employed in it.

Knutsford is particularly noted for the numerous families of gentry reſiding in its neighbourhood, which contribute much to the ſupport of the town. It has an elegant aſſembly room, where they have frequent meetings; and the races here are inferior to few in the kingdom for the diſplay of faſhionable company.

The



E. Dayes del.t

Pollard sculp.t

VIEW OF TATTON HALL.

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The church is a handſome brick building, of modern erection, and lately furniſhed with an organ. The old church was about a mile from the town, and ſome portion of it is ſtill kept ſtanding, as an ornamental object from the grounds of a neighbouring gentleman (P. Legh, Eſq. of Booths.) It is a vicarage, and is reckoned worth betwixt 200 and £.300 per annum.

A cuſtom prevails in this town, which is, we believe, confined to it. On the marriage of any inhabitant of the town or neighbourhood, in addition to the common tokens of joy, as ringing of bells, &c. the friends and acquaintances of the parties ſtrew the ſtreets with brown ſand, and on this, figure with white ſand various fanciful and emblematical devices, and over the whole are occaſionally ſtrewed the flowers of the ſeaſon. This cuſtom ſerves at leaſt this good end, that it keeps the ſtreets clean.

At a ſmall diſtance round Knutsford are the following ſeats: *Tabley-houſe*, Sir J. F. Leiceſter's; *Tatton-hall*, Mr. Egerton's; *Mere-hall*, Mr. Brookes's; *Booth's-hall*, Mr. Legh's; *Arley-hall*, Sir Peter Warburton's; *Toſt-hall*, Mr. Leiceſter's; *High-Legh-hall*, Mr. Legh's; *Capeſthorne*, Mr. Davenport's; *Aſtle*, Mr. Parker's; *Withington*, Mr. Glegg's; and many other old family manſions. Of theſe ſeats, *Tabley* and *Tatton* are the moſt conſiderable. *Tatton*, of which a view is annexed, has a very extenſive park of near 25,000 acres of arable and paſture land. The houſe is new, and deſigned by Wyatt, in a taſte of elegant ſimplicity; only one ſide, which is of ſtone, and the offices, are yet built. The ſtables, which are alſo new and deſigned by the ſame architect, are in a ſimilar ſtyle. The ſituation of the houſe is very fine, being on an elevated ſpot of ground in the middle of the park, from the front of which a lawn falls gradually to a fine piece of water, called

Tatton-

Tatton-mere, at ſomewhat more than half a mile's diſtance. The view beyond the mere, after taking in a variety of leſſer objects, is terminated by Alderly-edge, and the diſtant hills dividing Cheſhire from the neighbouring counties, among which the bold termination of *the Cloud*, near Congleton, is particularly ſtriking. The gardens are very extenſive, and kept with peculiar neatneſs, and the pinery is remarkably large and well conſtructed.

Tabley Houſe, the ſeat of Sir John Fleming Leiceſter, Bart. is an elegant and noble edifice, the chef d'œuvre of the celebrated architect Carr. The portico is executed in the Doric order, and is remarkable for the ſize of its pillars, which are the largeſt in the kingdom, conſiſting of ſingle ſtones. The ſtables, which are juſt finiſhed, may be conſidered as a perfect model, both as to magnificence and convenience. They conſiſt of a neat, elegant quadrangle, in the middle of which is a ſpacious riding houſe. The offices belonging to the ſtables, for ſuch they may with great propriety be ſtyled, are convenient beyond deſcription.

A part of the old manſion remains at a conſiderable diſtance in the park, and forms a very pictureſque and venerable ruin. It was the original habitation of that celebrated antiquarian, Sir Peter Leyceſter, Bart. author of the Antiquities of Cheſhire, &c. The park is evtenſive, through which runs a beautiful ſtream that is formed into a ſpacious ſheet of water.

Booth's-hall, the ſeat of Peter Legh, Eſq. of which a view is annexed, is a plain houſe, built of brick and ſtone, with an extenſive park, containing ſome fine pieces of water, particularly the lake over which the houſe is ſeen in the view. The proſpect from the manſion is very beautiful, the eye ranging over a great extent of country well diverſified,



VIEW OF BOOTHS HALL.

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verſified, in which the lake and canal, making a conſpicuous figure, render it a truly charming ſituation.

Here is a fine picture of Guerchino, the Death of Dido: it contains ſome beautiful paſſages, and the air of the heads is inimitably graceful. This ſeat is one mile from Knutsford.

ALTRINGHAM.

THIS is a ſmall, but very neat, town, ſituated in the courſe of the duke of Bridgewater's canal, eight miles from Mancheſter. It is governed by a mayor, and has a guild mercatory for free traffic, granted to it by charter from Hamon de Maſſey, lord of Dunham Maſſey, about the year 1290. Its trade, notwithſtanding, is inconſiderable. It has a market on Saturday, and a fair on St. James's day, formerly extremely crowded by company from Mancheſter, but now little frequented. The number of people in Altringham was accurately taken in 1772, when there appeared to be 248 families, and 1029 inhabitants. About twenty years before the number was very near 1000, ſo that the population has not greatly been affected by the neighbourhood of manufactures. The ſpinning of combed worſted prevailed formerly throughout this diſtrict, the wool being delivered out at Mancheſter by thoſe who employed Jerſey-combers there, to the people when they came to market, and the worſted yarn being ſold to the ſmall-ware manufacturers: but the introduction of Iriſh worſted ruined the buſineſs. Some ſtuffs for home wear are, however, ſtill made from the houſewifes' ſpinning in theſe diſtricts. It is ſingular that this town has no church or chapel,

its

its inhabitants being obliged to go to the parish church of Bowden, above a mile's distance, for public worship.

Not far from Altringham is *Dunham Massey*, the seat of the earl of Stamford, a house of no great appearance, but spacious and commodious within. It is chiefly built of brick, of a quadrangular form, with a court in the centre, and contains many family pictures. It is seated in the midst of an extensive park, full of fine timber, the unmolested growth of many years, through which avenues or vistas are cut, affording views of the hall. Several of the oaks are of extraordinary magnitude, making a most venerable appearance; and on their tops is a heronry, in which those birds build in society like rooks. The ground near the house has lately been laid out in an ornamental manner with shrubberies, flower-beds, &c. This mansion was long the seat of the Booths, first lords Delamere, then earls of Warrington. By the death of George, the late earl, in 1758, the title became extinct; but the estate came into the possession of the earl of Stamford, who had married his only daughter, the mother of the present earl. This noble family have long afforded to the country an instructive example of the virtues by which rank and fortune are made truly useful and respectable. The annexed view was taken in 1793.

Northwich Hundred.

THIS is situated to the south of the last-mentioned hundred, and principally comprehends the tracts lying on each side of the rivers Dane and Wheelock. It is well furnished with market-towns, of which the principal is that which gives name to the hundred.

NORTH.



E. Dayes del.r

Pollard sculp.t

VIEW OF DUNHAM.

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NORTHWICH.

THIS is a ſmall and ancient market-town ſituated at the conflux of the Dane with the Weaver. Its market is on Friday. It has two annual fairs, in Auguſt and December, which have lately become much frequented, to the great advantage of the inhabitants. It has a well endowed free-grammar ſchool. From its central ſituation, ſurrounded with gentlemen's ſeats; it is a place of conſiderable reſort for the tranſaction of public buſineſs, and other purpoſes.

Northwich is, however, principally diſtinguiſhed as the chief of the ſalt towns, and the only one of them which, in addition to brine ſprings, poſſeſſes mines of rock-ſalt. The diſcovery of this valuable mineral was made about a century ago, in the lands of William Marbury, Eſq. of Marbury, near this town. It has ſince been found in the adjoining townſhips of Wilton, Marſton, Wincham, and Winnington; but in no other part of the kingdom than this neighbourhood. The inhabitants, however, have a tradition that the rock as well as the brine pits were wrought in the time of the Romans.

Rock-ſalt is found from twenty-eight to forty-eight yards beneath the ſurface of the earth. The firſt ſtratum or mine met with is from fifteen to twenty-one yards in thickneſs, perfectly ſolid, and ſo hard as to be cut with great difficulty with iron picks and wedges. Of late, the workmen have blaſted it with gunpowder, by which they looſen and remove many tons together. The appearance of the ſalt is extremely reſembling that of brown ſugar-candy. Beneath this ſtratum is a bed of hard ſtone, conſiſting of large veins of flag, intermixed with ſome

rock

rock ſalt, the whole from twenty-five to thirty-five yards in thickneſs. Under this bed is a ſecond ſtratum, or mine, of ſalt, from five to ſix yards thick, many parts of it perfectly white, and clear as cryſtal, others browner, but all purer than the upper ſtratum, yet reckoned not ſo ſtrong. Above the whole maſs of ſalt lies a bed of whitiſh clay, which has been uſed in the Liverpool earthen ware; and in the ſame place is found a good deal of gypſum, or plaiſter ſtone.

Rock-ſalt pits are ſunk at great expence, and are very uncertain in their duration, being frequently deſtroyed by the brine ſprings burſting into them, and diſſolving the pillars, by which the whole work falls in, leaving vaſt chaſms on the ſurface of the earth. In forming a pit, a ſhaft or eye is ſunk, ſimilar to that of a coal-pit, but more extenſive. After the workmen have got down to the ſalt-rock, and made a proper cavity, they leave a ſufficient ſubſtance of the rock, about ſeven yards in thickneſs, to form a ſolid roof, and as they proceed, they hew pillars out of the rock for the ſupport of that roof, and then employ gunpowder to ſeparate what they mean to raiſe. When well illuminated, the cryſtalline ſurface of the roof, pillars, and ſides of a large pit, make a glittering and magnificent appearance. Freſh air is conveyed from the mouth of the pit by means of a tube, to which is fixed a pair of forge bellows, forming a continual current between the outer air and that in the pit. The pits at the greateſt depth are dry, and of a comfortable temperature.

The largeſt rock-ſalt pit now worked, is in the townſhip of Witton, and in the lands of Nicholas Aſhton, Eſq. It is worked in a circular form, 108 yards in diameter, its roof ſupported by twenty-five pillars, each three yards wide at the front, four at the back, and its ſides extending

tending ſix yards. The pit is fourteen yards hollow; conſequently each pillar contains 294 ſolid yards of rock ſalt; and the whole area of the pit contains 9160 ſuperficial yards, little leſs than two acres of land.

The average quantity of rock-ſalt annually delivered from the pits in the neighbourhood of Northwich for the laſt ſeven years is 50,484 tons. Another account ſtates the annual average (no period mentioned) at about 65,000 tons. Upon this laſt calculation, the mode in which the rock-ſalt is diſpoſed of is ſtated to be, exported to Dunkirk, Oſtend, Riga, Bruges, Nieuport, Pillau, Elſineur, &c. from 45 to 50,000 tons: ditto to Ireland, from 3000 to 4000 tons: refined in England, viz.

At Northwich,	5000 tons,	Liverpool,	3000 tons,
Frodſham, -	3000 do.	Dungeon works,	2500 do.

The rock-ſalt, as well as the white ſalt, made at Northwich, is conveyed down the Weaver, and thence by the Merſey to Liverpool in veſſels from fifty to eighty tons burthen, and there re-ſhipped for foreign countries, or kept for refinement. We have already mentioned the great advantage Liverpool has derived from poſſeſſing ſuch an article for the ballaſt-loading of its outward-bound ſhips.

Northwich likewiſe much ſurpaſſes the other ſalt towns in the ſalt made from brine ſprings; and being, therefore, the centre of the Cheſhire ſalt trade, we ſhall take this occaſion of concluding all we have further to ſay concerning this product.

The

The average quantity of ſalt made from the Cheſhire brine ſprings, which are inexhauſtible in quantity, and many of them fully ſaturated, is ſuppoſed to be nearly,

At Northwich, - -	45,000 tons,	Lawton, - -	1500 tons,
Winsford, - - -	15,000 do.	Namptwich, -	60 do.
Middlewich, - -	4000 do.		

If to theſe numbers be added, for refined rock-ſalt, at

Northwich, -	5000 tons,	Frodſham, -	4000 tons.

the whole quantity of ſalt made in Cheſhire will appear; viz. about 74,560 tons.

The uſual depth of the brine ſprings is from twenty to forty yards. The mode of cryſtalliſing ſalt, is by putting the brine into large iron pans, of twenty or thirty feet ſquare, and fourteen inches deep, where it is heated till it boils: a light ſcum then riſes to the top, which being taken off, the liquor is reduced to a lower degree of heat; the ſteam ariſing is made to evaporate as quickly as poſſible; and the ſalt cryſtalliſing forms a cruſt on the ſurface, which ſinks to the bottom of the pan, whence it is taken out once or twice in twenty-four hours. The quantity annually cryſtalliſed is computed at about 35,000 tons. All the fine hard baſket ſalt is not cryſtalliſed. Of the white ſalt, about 15 or 16,000 tons are conſumed in England and Wales, excluſive of what is refined from rock-ſalt. The duty on ſalt conſumed at home is 5*s*. per buſhel of 56lb., or £.10 per ton, groſs duty, ſubject to a diſcount of 10 per cent. on refined, and 7½ on white ſalt; the duty paid weekly. All ſalt is exported duty free, the exporter giving bond for the amount of the duty, which is cancelled by debenture obtained from the cuſtom-houſe when the veſſel clears. No ſalt has been allowed to be uſed as manure, ſince the year 1778, when an act paſſed to levy an equal duty on

on all ſalt of what quality ſoever. The obſtacle this affords to agricultural improvements has already been noted.

The revenue ariſing from ſalt is thought of ſo much conſequence, that a particular board is appointed for the collection and management of it, having a department quite independent on the exciſe and cuſtoms. Not a peck of ſalt can go from the works without a permit, under the riſque of forfeiture and high penalties; and officers are ſtationed on the roads to demand a ſight of permits, and to re-weigh on ſuſpicion of fraud.

The number of hands employed in Cheſhire in getting rock-ſalt, and making white and refined ſalt, is ſuppoſed to be about 1200.

Winnington-hall, very pleaſantly ſituated on the Weaver within a mile of Northwich, is the ſeat of lord Penrhyn.

Acroſs the river, and in the hundred of Bucklow, is *Marbury-hall*, the ſeat of the Barry family, in the pariſh, and cloſe to the extenſive meer of Great Budworth.

MIDDLEWICH.

THIS place derives its name from being the middlemoſt of the *Wiches*, or ſalt towns. It is ſeated at the conflux of the Dane with the Croke. Middlewich is an ancient borough, governed by its burgeſſes, and poſſeſſing the ſame privileges with the other ſalt towns. Its market is on Tueſday, and it has annual fairs on July 25th, and on Holy Thurſday. The church is a vicarage, comprehending a large pariſh divided into many townſhips. The ſalt here is made from brine ſprings well ſaturated; the quantity is not very conſiderable, but might be increaſed on demand. The Staffordſhire canal paſſes by the town. Middlewich is a tolerably well-built place, of moderate ſize and pleaſantly ſituated.

Near

Near Middlewich is *Kinderton*, which gave title to one of the ancient barons who compoſed the upper houſe of the parliament of the earls of Cheſter. This was the family of Venables, now repreſented by lord Vernon of Kinderton, the only lineal ſucceſſor of the eight Cheſhire barons, who has deſcended to our times.

Not far from hence is *Holm's-chapel*, formerly a great thoroughfare for paſſengers from Lancaſhire to London by Talk-on-the-Hill, but of late years much leſs frequented, on account of the new roads by Buxton and Derby, and by Congleton and Leek. Its manor belongs to the family of Needham.

Rudheath, a wild and ſpacious diſtrict in this neighbourhood, was formerly a place of refuge for criminals, who were protected here from juſtice for the ſpace of a year and a day. But this noxious privilege was found to be ſuch a nuiſance to the country, that it was aboliſhed even before the ſuppreſſion of popery.

SANDBACH.

THIS ſmall town is ſituated on a high bank upon the little river Wheelock, not far from Middlewich. It was made a market-town in the laſt century by its lord, Sir John Radcliffe of Ordſall, Lancaſhire: its market-day is Thurſday, and it has two annual fairs, in Eaſter week and September. In the market-place are two ſquare croſſes, with images, and the ſtory of the Paſſion engraved on them. Formerly, worſted yarn, and ſome ſtuffs for country wear were made here, but its trade has much declined. It was likewiſe famous for its malt liquor.

Brereton-

Brereton-hall, in its neighbourhood, was the ſeat of the ancient family of that name. Near it is a pool, concerning which it was the tradition of the place, that trunks of trees were ſeen floating upon it for ſeveral days together before the death of an heir of the family. A fair is kept yearly on Lammas day on Brereton-green.

CONGLETON.

THIS town is ſituated on the upper part of the Dane, near the borders of Staffordſhire. It is a ſmall corporation, being governed by a mayor and ſix aldermen. The buildings are neat; the market-day is Saturday, and there are four yearly fairs. Congleton has two churches, one in the town, one at the bridge end acroſs the river; both under the mother church of Aſtbury, two miles diſtant. This place was formerly noted for the making of tagged leather laces, called Congleton points. It has now a manufactory of gloves, with ſome ferreting; but the chief employment for the poor is derived from a very capital ſilk mill, erected on the river, and from the manufactory of ribands on account of the Coventry merchants.

Aſtbury is a large pariſh, containing many gentlemens' ſeats. It has a handſome church, with a lofty ſpire ſteeple. In the church-yard are two ancient ſtone monuments, with the inſignia of knighthood upon them, but it is not determined to what families they belong.

Lawton, at the ſouth weſtern extremity of the hundred, on the Staffordſhire border, contains the ſeat of the family of that name, which has inhabited this place for many generations. There is a conſiderable

ſalt

ſalt work in this pariſh, which has the advantage of the Staffordſhire canal paſſing through it.

Macclesfield Hundred.

THIS is the moſt extenſive hundred in Cheſhire, compriſing all its north-eaſtern ſide, and partaking of the wild and hilly character of the adjacent parts of Derbyſhire and Yorkſhire. A great part of it was anciently a foreſt, and a conſiderable diſtrict ſtill retains the name of Macclesfield foreſt, though at preſent a naked and dreary tract. The head of this diſtrict, and alſo of the hundred, is

MACCLESFIELD,

A BOROUGH or corporate town. Its firſt charter was granted in 1261 by Edward, ſon of Henry III., afterwards king Edward I. It conferred the privileges of a merchants' guild free from toll throughout the county of Cheſter, and a common paſture, and contained the uſual obligations on the burgeſſes to grind and bake at the king's mill and oven, and to pay a ſhilling for each burgage. This charter was confirmed by many of the ſucceeding kings, with various additional privileges.

The corporation conſiſts of twenty-four aldermen, four of whom are in the commiſſion of the peace, and one is mayor and juſtice of the quorum. Its officers are a town-clerk and coroner, two ſerjeants at mace, four javelin men, and a conſtable or town crier. The mayor is always lord of the manor, the revenue of which amounts to about £.200 per annum, ariſing from tolls, and the money paid for water, which is conveyed by pipes from ſprings on the common. He alſo has the right of nominating the preacher or miniſter of the parochial church.

Macclef-

Macclesfield ſtands upon the deſcent of a ſteep hill, waſhed by a branch of the Bollin, which runs through the loweſt part of the town, commonly named the Waters. It is well ſupplied with good water from the ſprings on the common above-mentioned. It has two churches of the eſtabliſhment, and five other places of worſhip. The old church or parochial chapel of St. Michael was founded by Edward I. and Eleanor his queen, in the ſeventh year of his reign. It was ſome time afterwards enlarged; and being decayed, was taken down to the chancel, enlarged and rebuilt in 1740, at the expence of £.1000. It is a large Gothic building, and has two chapels annexed to it. One of theſe was built by Thomas Savage, archbiſhop of York, whoſe heart was buried here in 1508; and was made the burial-place of the Savages, afterwards earls Rivers, to whom there are various marble monuments. It now belongs to earl Cholmondeley. The other chapel belongs to the Leghs, of Lyme; one of whom, Perkin a Legh, buried here, is ſaid by an inſcription to have obtained the eſtate and lordſhip of Lyme as a reward for his ſervices in the battle of Creſſy.

The new church, called Chriſt-church, built by the late Charles Roe, Eſq. is a regular, elegant ſtructure, having a ſteeple with ten bells, and a handſome organ. Over the altar is a fine buſt of Mr. Roe, executed by Bacon. This church was begun in March 1775, and opened for divine ſervice on Chriſtmas day in the ſame year, with near 800 communicants.

Macclesfield has a large and elegant free-grammar ſchool, with a ſpacious dwelling-houſe for the head-maſter, and a field for the boys to exerciſe. It has been brought into much reputation by the preſent maſter, who has a number of boarders, and aſſiſtants in various branches of

of learning. The ſchool was founded by Edward VI.: its original endowment was to the amount of £.25 in houſes and lands; but ſo great have been the improvements of the town, that they now produce near £.800 per annum.

The ſeſſions for the hundred and foreſt are held at Macclesfield every Eaſter and Michaelmas to try all cauſes leſs than felony. An inferior court is held by the mayor and juſtices every Friday for petty cauſes, and a bench of juſtices ſits every Monday. The market day is Monday, and there are fairs on St. Barnabas and All Souls' days.

In the town's-box is preſerved a copy of a petition ſent to king Henry VII. ſoon after the battle of Boſworth, ſetting forth, that having loſt ſo many of the principal inhabitants of the town in the battle, they were unable to fill up the number of aldermen required by the charter; on which account they petitioned his majeſty that their charter might not be conſidered as broken, their townſmen having loſt their lives in his ſervice.

Henry Stafford, the great duke of Buckingham, the inſtrument of the ambition of Richard III., lived here in great ſtate and hoſpitality. Of his manſion there are ſtill ſome remains.

With reſpect to the trade of Macclesfield, that of wrought buttons in ſilk, mohair, and twiſt, is properly its ſtaple. The hiſtory of this button trade affords ſome curious particulars. The uſe of them may be traced 150 years backwards; and they were once curiouſly wrought with the needle, making a great figure in full-trimmed ſuits. Macclesfield was always conſidered as the centre of this trade, and mills were

were erected long ago both there and at Stockport for winding ſilk and making twiſt for buttons, and trimming ſuitable to them.

In the wild country between Buxton, Leek, and Macclesfield, called the *Flaſh*, from a chapel of that name, lived a ſet of pedeſtrian chapmen, who hawked about theſe buttons, together with ribands and ferreting made at Leek, and handkerchiefs, with ſmall wares from Mancheſter. Theſe pedlars were known on the roads which they travelled by the appellation of *Flaſh-men*, and frequented farm-houſes and fairs, uſing a ſort of ſlang or canting dialect. At firſt they paid ready money for their goods, till they acquired credit, which they were ſure to extend till no more was to be had; when they dropped their connections without paying, and formed new ones. They long went on thus, encloſing the common where they dwelt for a trifling payment, and building cottages, till they began to have farms, which they improved from the gains of their credit, without troubling themſelves about payment, ſince no bailiff for a long time attempted to ſerve a writ there. At length, a reſolute officer, a native of the diſtrict, ventured to arreſt ſeveral of them; whence their credit being blown up, they changed the wandering life of pedlars for the ſettled care of their farms. But as theſe were held by no leaſes, they were left at the mercy of the lords of the ſoil, the Harpur family, who made them pay for their impoſitions on others.

Another ſet of pedeſtrians from the country where buttons were formerly made, was called the *Broken-croſs Gang*, from a place of that name between Macclesfield and Congleton. Theſe aſſociated with the Flaſh-men at fairs, playing with thimbles and buttons, like jugglers with cups and balls, and enticing people to loſe their money by gambling. They at length took to the kindred trades of robbing and picking

ing

ing pockets, till at length the gang was broken up by the hands of juſtice. We cannot but remark, that Autolycus in Shakeſpear ſeems to have been a model of this worthy brotherhood.

In order to favour the button trade, an act of parliament paſſed about eighty years ago, inflicting a penalty upon the wearing of moulds covered with the ſame ſtuff with the garment; and this, after having fallen into neglect, was again attempted to be enforced with rigour in 1778, and hired informers were engaged in London and the country to put it into execution—an odious and very uncommercial mode of enforcing a manufacture! the reſult of which was rather to promote the uſe of metal and horn buttons. The trade is ſtill, however, conſiderable.

Macclesfield has likewiſe between twenty and thirty ſilk mills, and many cotton factories; for here, as well as in the other Cheſhire towns, the cotton trade is gaining ground upon the older branches of manufacture. It has alſo a very extenſive work for ſmelting and working copper, and making braſs. This is ſituated upon a large common to the eaſt of the town; and conſiſts, firſt, of a large ſquare building, called the ſmelting houſes, where the ore is melted and refined, and the metal caſt into ſhot. In this building large furnace-bricks and melting pots are likewiſe made. There is next a large windmill for grinding the ore; and near it are the calamy houſes, a range of low buildings, where the calamine is repeatedly waſhed in running water. The braſs houſes are a number of lofty buildings where copper is made into ſheets for the ſheathing of ſhips; and pan bottoms, braſs wire and braſs nails are manufactured. Before the works are three large reſervoirs for the ſupply of water, and a row of dwelling houſes for the numerous workmen. A large colliery with four ſeams of coal, one above another,



E. Mayes delin.t

Walker sculp.t

VIEW OF MACCLESFIELD.

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another, is on the ſame common, whence the town and the copper works are ſupplied with fuel. A capital brewery in the neighbourhood of the works is furniſhed with water from a hill much higher than its roof. In the front of it runs the river, which turns the corn mill and a number of ſilk mills.

The houſes in Macclesfield are more than doubled within theſe twenty-five years. The town is now a mile and a quarter in length; and the new buildings on each ſide of the London road form a conſiderable part of the additions. The annexed view of Macclesfield was taken from Stanley's acre.

Coal abounds in the neighbourhood of Macclesfield, which ſupplies the ſurrounding country, and is uſed for the burning of the lime of Buxton. The townſhip of *Bollington* has a very large ſteam engine belonging to a coal pit; and on the river here is a curious water machine for grinding bark, and a large cotton work, with very complete machinery for all the branches of that manufacture. The townſhip of *Rainow* has a ſmaller one of the ſame kind, and likewiſe a large colliery.

There are various gentlemens' ſeats in the neighbourhood of Macclesfield, particularly towards the weſt and north, ſome of which we ſhall enumerate.

Henbury-hall, late the ſeat of Sir William Meredith, is now occupied by Mr. Jodrell, who has rendered it a very delightful reſidence.

Capeſthorne, a ſeat with a ſmall park, is the manſion of the Davenport family.

On

On the weſt ſide of that elevated tract of ground called Alderley-edge, is ſituated *Alderley-hall*, the property and late reſidence of Sir J. T. Stanley, Bart. to whom the greater part of that tract belongs. This houſe was in great part deſtroyed by fire a few years ago. It is ſurrounded with a fine moat of running water, well ſtocked with fiſh. Adjoining is the old park, which contains ſome remarkably large beech trees.

Northwards from Macclesfield is *Preſtbury*, reckoned the largeſt pariſh in Cheſhire, and having under it a number of chapels in the circumjacent country. Its living, a vicarage, is in the gift of Mrs. Legh, the heireſs of the eſtates of the Leghs of Adlington, whoſe ſeat, *Adlington-hall*, is at a ſmall diſtance on the road to Stockport. Belonging to it is an extenſive park, ſtocked with a great quantity of fine oak timber of conſiderable growth, and moſt of it fit for cutting. A fine ſtream flows through the midſt of the park. The old cuſtom of driving the deer through a ſheet of water is ſtill continued here.

Mottram St. Andrew-hall, Mr. Wright's; and *Pott Shrigley*, Mr. Downes's, lie to the weſt and eaſt of Adlington.

More to the eaſt, among the hills, is *Lyme-hall*, the ſeat of the principal of the families of the name of Legh, which alſo poſſeſſes Haydock in Lancaſhire; at preſent repreſented by Thomas Legh, Eſq. M. P. for Newton, and colonel of a regiment of light-horſe raiſed by himſelf. The building is on a quadrangular plan, forming a large court, with a piazza round three ſides of it, which gives the whole an air of grandeur. It is irregular, the N. and E. angles being of the date of Elizabeth or James I. and the S. and W. a regular Ionic ſtructure from a deſign of Leoni. The ſituation is bad; the country round barren and mooriſh; and



E. Dayes del.t

Wm Elson sculp.t

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E. Dayes del.t

Pollard sculp.t

VIEW OF POYNTON.

and though the elevation is ſuch as to render it much expoſed to the wind, there is no view from the houſe. It ſtands in the midſt of a very extenſive park, well ſtocked with deer, which are famous for taking the water when driven by the keeper. The ſoil appears to ſuit theſe animals, as the veniſon is of a ſuperior flavour. On the top of an eminence in the park is a building called Lyme Cage, a very conſpicuous object from the country round.

On the road from Macclesfield to Stockport, at four miles diſtance from the latter, is *Poynton*, the ſeat of Sir George Warren, Bart. K. B. The houſe is an elegant piece of architecture of the Ionic order, and is decorated with beautiful pleaſure grounds and a fine piece of water, as ſhown in the annexed view, which was taken from the Stockport road. The park is very extenſive and well laid out, and from one part of it is a delightful proſpect, taking in Stockport and Mancheſter, and ſtretching away to the remote parts of Lancaſhire. The park has lately been much augmented. It contains conſiderable quantities of timber in various parts of it, but its ſubterraneous riches, conſiſting of thick veins of coal of the beſt quality, are inexhauſtible. The following ſingular ſtory is related of their diſcovery. An old tenant of one of the farms had long laboured under the inconvenience of being obliged to fetch his water at a diſtance. He had frequently petitioned his landlord that he might have a well ſunk, which had often been promiſed, but its execution neglected. Wearied out at length, he gave notice that he ſhould quit the premiſes. Sir George not willing to loſe a reſpectable farmer, who had long been his neareſt neighbour, aſſured him that his requeſt for a well ſhould be complied with, and had the work immediately ſet about. The ſpring lay a conſiderable depth; and before they got to the water, the workmen were agreeably ſurprized with finding one of the

the fineſt veins of coal in that country. It has continued to be worked with great ſucceſs ever ſince; and the lucky diſcovery has greatly enhanced the value of the park and eſtate. The farmer ſtill reſides on the ſpot.

One mile further is *Bullock Smithy*, a village of conſiderable length. Here Mr. Legh, of Booths, has built an elegant, ſmall houſe, called *Torkington-lodge*, placed upon a riſing ground, and ſurrounded with pleaſure grounds laid out with taſte. At Torkington, the road turns off for Buxton, through Diſley. It is a good road, though hilly, and commands delightful proſpects in various parts.

STOCKPORT.

THIS town, ſeated on the Lancaſhire border, was one of the eight baronies of Cheſhire, and has a charter from its ancient lord, Robert de Stokeport, who granted an homeſtead and an acre of land to each of his burgeſſes, on the yearly payment of one ſhilling. The lordſhip, as well as the patronage of the rectory, is now in Sir George Warren, of Poynton. From its vicinity to Mancheſter, the diſtance being only ſeven miles, it has participated in a great degree in the flouriſhing ſtate of the commerce of that town; ſo that it may now be reckoned the ſecond town in Cheſhire for conſequence, and probably ſuperior to Cheſter itſelf in population. On this account we ſhall deſcribe it with ſome minuteneſs.

The

The ground on which it ſtands is very irregular. The market place and pariſh church are ſeated on the ſummit of a hill, affording a level of conſiderable extent. This ground conſiſts of a ſolid rock of ſoft free-ſtone, with an extremely ſteep deſcent on the north, towards the Merſey, but eaſy of acceſs on the other ſides. Part of the northern ſide is perpendicular for a height equal to that of the houſes, of which a row encircles the baſe of the hill, having their backs to it, and concealing it from the view of paſſengers. Some of theſe houſes have apartments hollowed out of the rock, and the appearance of the whole to one who ſurveys it cloſely is very ſingular. On the ſummit of the rock is an upper row of houſes, completely encircling the market-place, which is ſpacious and convenient. From this central part the town ſtretches away in different directions, and by the late great increaſe of buildings has extended on every ſide into the country. Its particular objects we ſhall now deſcribe.

Stockport contains two churches of the eſtabliſhment, four diſſenters', and one quakers' meeting. The old or pariſh church of St. Mary is ſuppoſed to have been built 400 or 500 years ſince. It is a large pile of building, of a ſoft, red free-ſtone, ſimilar to that of the rock on which the town ſtands, which by the force of the weather is ſo waſhed and worn, that it has been neceſſary lately to carry up an additional row of ſtone to ſupport the ſteeple. This church has under it four chapels of eaſe; and by the improvements of the town and country the value of the living is ſo greatly increaſed, as to be reckoned worth at leaſt £.1200 per annum. The preſent rector is the Rev. Charles Preſcott, an active magiſtrate, and very uſeful member of ſociety. The parſonage houſe at which he reſides is at the top of a hill aſcending from the church, and is a large, handſome building in the midſt of a garden.

garden. It overlooks the whole town and ſurrounding country, and enjoys a pleaſing view of the windings of the Merſey at the bottom of the hill.

St. Peter's church, conſecrated in 1768, was built by Peter Wright, Eſq. and endowed by him with £.200 from ſeveral eſtates in Cheſhire. It ſtands on a hill on the weſt ſide of the town. The patronage is veſted in Henry O. Wright, Eſq. of Mottram St. Andrew. Both the churches are furniſhed with organs; the new church with a very fine one.

There is a grammar-ſchool in Stockport, founded in 1487 by the Goldſmith's company in London, and endowed by Edmund Shaw, citizen of London, with £.10 per annum, which is ſince, by allowances from the town, advanced to £.36. It is now filled by the Rev. Mr. Hoyle.

There are four bridges in and near the town. The old bridge croſſing the Merſey on the Mancheſter road, called the Lancaſhire bridge, has each end built upon rock, and ſtands very high above the water, a neceſſary circumſtance in a river ſubject to ſuch ſudden and violent ſwells as the Merſey is in the upper parts of its courſe. Further to obviate the danger of inundations, it is ſuppoſed that the rock here has been cut deeper and wider, which is rendered probable by the marks of tools upon it. Directly from this bridge the road to Mancheſter riſes up a ſteep and difficult aſcent; but this inconvenience will be remedied in a new turnpike road now making, which will make a ſweep round the hill. About half a mile down the river is Brinkſway-bridge, lately built on the Cheadle road. Up the river, a ſhort diſtance from Lancaſhire-

ſhire-bridge, is Portwood-bridge, leading to Portwood, a new and thriving village on the Lancaſhire ſide of the Merſey; and one mile from Stockport, on the Mottram road, is the New Bridge, built about forty years ſince, which is a noble ſtructure, making a fine appearance from the river. It conſiſts of a ſingle arch, 210 feet in width, thirty-one feet ſeven inches high, and ſixteen feet thick. Near the old bridge is the very ancient town reſidence of the Ardens, now the property of John Arden, Eſq. It is built of wood and plaiſter, and being kept in good repair, has a venerable appearance.

Stockport is chiefly ſupplied with water in the old part of the town by open ſprings riſing in Barn-fields, which are conſiderably higher than the market-place; theſe are collected into a reſervoir behind St. Peter's church, and from thence carried by pipes to different parts of the town, as well as into the houſes on the rocks in the market-place.

We ſhall now ſay ſomething of the progreſs of trade to which this town owes its flouriſhing condition.

In Stockport were erected the firſt mills for winding and throwing ſilk, on a plan procured from Italy; and the perſons concerned in the ſilk factories were reckoned the principal people in the place; but on the decline of this trade, the machinery was applied to cotton ſpinning; and the different branches of the cotton manufacture are now the chief ſtaple of the town. The people of Stockport firſt engaged in the ſpinning of reeled weft, then in weaving checks, and laſtly in fuſtians; and they were ſo ingenious as to attempt muſlins, which were introduced about ten years ſince upon the invention of the machines called mules, whereby the thread was drawn finer and ſpun ſofter than that for weft.

The

The manufacturers here, with this advantage, produced a ſpecies of flowered muſlin with borders for aprons and handkerchiefs, by caſting a coarſe ſhoot for the figures, and trimming of the float by ſciſſars neatly before bleaching; ſo that the figure was a good imitation of needle work. Weaving fuſtians has extended from thence over Cheadle, Gatley, and Northenden, where a few checks or furnitures had been woven before. The cotton trade at Stockport is now ſo conſiderable, that beſides a large number of cotton ſpinning ſhops, there are twenty-three large cotton factories, four of them worked by ſteam engines. The making of hats is likewiſe a conſiderable branch of employment.

The weekly market of Stockport is on Friday. A great quantity of corn and oat-meal are ſold at it, and it is accounted the beſt market for cheeſe in the county. There are four yearly fairs; viz. two in March, one on May-day, and one on the 25th of October.

The police of the town is conducted by one reſiding juſtice of the peace, two conſtables, four churchwardens, and three overſeers of the poor.

The population has of late years been amazingly on the increaſe, ſo that before the war, houſes could not be built faſt enough for the demand. The only documents we have for its preſent ſtate are the following. In the year 1794 there were, at the old church, 149 marriages, 415 chriſtenings, and 600 burials: the latter number is probably nearly that of all the deaths in the town; and, even upon the ſuppoſition of the year being an unhealthy one, would imply a population of about 15,000 perſons. In the late aſſeſſment of men for the navy, Stockport raiſed twenty men, its *rated* houſes being eſtimated at 1358.

We



J. Hayes del.

Storer sculp.

VIEW OF STOCKPORT.

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We have before obſerved how difficult it is to eſtabliſh a proportion between the taxed and excuſed houſes; but from the manner in which Stockport is peopled, it is probable that the allowance for non-rated houſes ſhould be as high as in almoſt any manufacturing town—perhaps an equality with the rated houſes. Into this account are not taken the hamlets of Heaton-Norris, and Portwood, on the Lancaſhire ſide of the river, of which the former is reckoned to contain 170 houſes, the latter about 100. The extenſion of the town is very great, as well on the Macclesfield and Cheadle ſides, as on the Mancheſter. The hill to the weſt, on which St. Peter's church is built, is now almoſt covered with buildings.

A branch from the Mancheſter and Aſhton canal, which is to come to the top of the high ground on the Lancaſhire ſide of the river, is nearly finiſhed. Its uſe to ſuch a populous and trading place cannot but be very great.

The annexed view of Stockport was taken in 1793 from Brinkſway Bank. Brinkſway-bridge is on the left, and behind it part of Lancaſhire. In the front is the town. The round tower in the centre is on a level with the market-place; it is called the Caſtle, and is a large cotton work. To the right of it is the old church, and ſtill further to the right the new church. In the back ground on the right is the noted hill called Wernerth Low, which is paſture to the top: acroſs it is the old road to Mottram, and from behind it comes down the Merſey. From the ſpot whence the view was taken, we diſtinctly ſee up the valley between the two hills. The Woodhead, where the light breaks in, is ſixteen miles diſtant.

The

The land in the neighbourhood of Stockport is chiefly paſture, and in general very good, ſupplying the town plentifully with milk and butter. It lets, however, at a very high rate; and the land ſold for building before the war brought ſuch prices as were never known.

Very lately, a ſpring of mineral water, appearing to come from a coal mine or bed of iron ſtone, was diſcovered near the town. It was reported to be a cure for weak eyes, and was for a time frequented by great numbers of people, well and ill, ſome of whom drank the water. About this time the jaundice became very epidemical in and about Stockport, and this was by ſome imputed to the uſe of the mineral water; in conſequence of which it came to be entirely neglected.

Between Stockport and the New-bridge, a very extenſive cotton factory was lately erected at a large expence by Mr. Doxon. The water is brought to it from the Merſey above the New-bridge by means of a ſubterraneous tunnel, and in ſummer it takes every drop of the water, to the great ſurprize of the traveller, who paſſes over a vaſt arch which ſeems thrown over a channel perfectly dry. The erection of this work has cauſed a number of dwelling houſes for the workmen to be built, which form a ſtreet on the road ſide.

On the left, about two miles further, upon the bank of the Tame, ſtands *Harden-hall*, the old family reſidence of the Ardens, and now the property of John Arden, Eſq. It is ſaid to have been once occupied by John of Gaunt, but it is now no more than a farm houſe. It is ſurrounded by a moat, kept in good condition. The building is of a Gothic deſign, compoſed of a centre and two wings, making the figure of an H. The centre part on the ground floor is all one room, very large,



VIEW OF HARDEN HALL.

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large, awkward, and high. The windows are large, but give little light. The walls are wainſcotted to the ceiling. A few old-faſhioned chairs, with worked ſeats, are left in the room, and it is decorated with ſeveral old portraits, but none of them good ones. The upper rooms are ſmall. The houſe ſtands on the brow of a ſteep hill. At the back of it is a watch tower, which, with the whole of the building, is in good repair, though the date of its erection is 1500 and odd. The annexed view was taken in 1793.

Denton, a long, ſtraggling village on the Lancaſhire ſide of the Tame, one mile from Harden-hall, has increaſed much of late, and is principally occupied by hatters, cotton-ſpinners, and colliers.

On the weſtern ſide of Stockport, at three miles diſtance, is *Cheadle*, a neat and pleaſant village on the Merſey, having an ancient pariſh church. Its manor formerly went in two portions, one to the family of Savages, the other to the Bulkeleys.

About an equal diſtance on the eaſtern ſide of Stockport is *Chadkirk*, where is an ancient chapel, in a moſt romantic and ſequeſtered ſituation. At the back is a half round of high bank cloathed with wood, concealing it from view on that ſide. Part of the bank is now planted with fruit trees forming an orchard. The land in front, to the river, is rich paſture, divided by beautiful hedges kept in nice order. Only one houſe is to be ſeen near the chapel, though there are many in the neighbourhood. By the river ſide is a large printing ground, one of the oldeſt in theſe parts. Somewhat lower down is *Otterſcoe-bridge*, with a number of houſes adjoining.

Marple-

Marple-hall, an extenſive building, is in this neighbourhood, celebrated for having been the reſidence of Preſident Bradſhaw, where he lived a conſiderable time in retirement. It is now the property and in the occupation of Mrs. Iſherwood.

Near the commencement of the eaſtern horn of Cheſhire, which runs up into the wild country bordering on Yorkſhire and the Peak of Derbyſhire, is *Hyde Chapel*, or, as it is now called, *Gee Croſs*. The chapel is a diſſenting place of worſhip. About twenty-five years ago there was only one houſe beſides; now the place looks like a little town, and forms a continued ſtreet for nearly a mile. Near it is *Red Pump-ſtreet*, a new village lately built by Mr. Sidebottom.

Hyde-hall, the ſeat of George Hyde Clarke, Eſq. a branch of the Clarendon family, is pleaſantly ſituated oppoſite to Denton, on the Cheſhire ſide of the Tame, upon a riſing ground, having gardens ſloping down to the water's edge. The building is an ancient hall with a new front. Adjoining to it are extenſive ſtables and other offices, conveniently planned, and the whole ſupplied with water by a running ſpring iſſuing from a height behind the houſe. In the houſe are ſome good paintings, among which is an original whole length of the great earl of Clarendon. Betwixt the bridge and the houſe is a mill for grinding corn, for the uſe of which, as well as for that of a water engine on the Lancaſhire ſide belonging to ſome valuable coal mines of Mr. Clarke's, is a wear, which throws a broad ſheet of water to a conſiderable depth below, where it has worked a hole many yards deep and wide. The appearance and noiſe of this caſcade have a romantic effect: and the river for half a mile above is made by it to appear like a lake, forming a fine piece of water well ſtocked with trout and eels. On each ſide of the



J. Sweriner del.t

Sparrow sculp.t

VIEW OF HYDE HALL.

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the river downwards from the garden are high banks, well wooded, in which the river is loſt for ſome ſpace, and then ſeen again at a diſtance in a ſheet of water, formed by a wear belonging to Mr. John Arden, for the purpoſe of another coal-mine engine.

In front of the houſe, and at a pleaſing diſtance, is a bridge, lately built for the convenience of its owner, and the accommodation of thoſe who frequent his coal pits. It is a neat ſtructure, with a fine arch, and makes a pictureſque object from the houſe. The ſurrounding land is moſtly of a good quality, affording excellent arable, meadow, and paſture. The eſtate abounds with coal, and will be greatly benefited by the Peak foreſt canal, which paſſes at a ſmall diſtance behind the houſe. As the Tame flows through the middle of Mr. Clarke's eſtate, he enjoys a right to the water on both ſides. On the whole, the ſituation of this ſeat is a very deſirable one, being retired and romantic, without much aſſiſtance from art. The annexed view was taken in 1794. In the back ground appear the diſtant hills above Mottram.

Dukinfield.—This is a ſmall townſhip and barony in the pariſh of Stockport. The village is pleaſantly ſituated upon an eminence commanding an extenſive proſpect over a populous, varied, and plentiful country. Its name in the Anglo-Saxon dialect was *Dockenveldt*. The river Tame ſeparates it from the pariſh of Aſhton-under-Lyne, in Lancaſhire, on the north and weſt ſides. This river, in the time of the heptarchy, was the boundary of two kingdoms, which will account for the ſtrong out-works of the caſtle or old hall of Aſhton, oppoſed by equally ſtrong fortifications on this ſide. Theſe were ſituated ſomewhere on the grounds now occupied by the lodge; and the manſion, formerly the ſeat of the Dukinfield family, thus defended, ſtood on a

place

place called the Hall-green. No traces of it remain but the name. The hall now bearing the family name was erected in its ſtead. This family of Dukinfields have reſided here ſince the time of the Conqueror till of late years, when the eſtate, by marriage, came into the poſſeſſion of the late John Aſtley, Eſq. His ſon, a minor, is now lord of the manor.

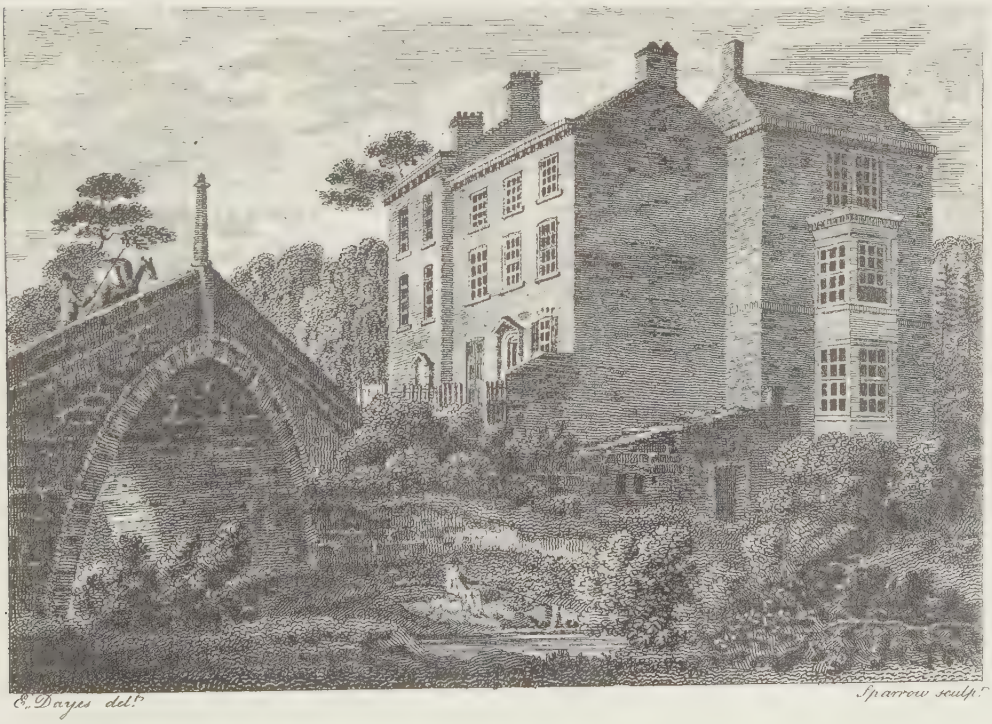
Dukinfield-hall is an ancient building of a venerable appearance. A chapel of more modern erection forms one wing of it, in which are buried ſome of the later branches of the Dukinfield family, under large tomb-ſtones with inſcriptions ſtill perfect; but the place itſelf is only uſed as a lumber room. The memory of the family is ſtill much reſpected by the ancient inhabitants. The annexed view of the hall was taken in 1793 from the lower end of a fiſh pond in its front.

Dukinfield-lodge, the new ſeat built by the late Mr. Aſtley, is delightfully ſituated on an eminence above the Tame. It contains a fine octagon room with painted windows. Moſt of the others are ſmall, but elegant, and are decorated with pictures chiefly by the hand of Mr. Aſtley, who had been a painter by profeſſion. The whole building was never finiſhed. It has a fine hot-houſe, and a large open bath with a dreſſing-room. In the front of the houſe is a terrace, affording a very pleaſing view; and the precipitous rock deſcending from it has been cloathed with evergreens and other trees and ſhrubs. A fine wood occupies the ſpace between it and the river, through which are cut ſeveral retired walks. The ſeat is now occupied by William Robert Hay, Eſq. who married Mr. Aſtley's widow. Its beauties have given riſe to a deſcriptive piece written by a young poet, Mr. William Hampſon, and



Dayes del.t Walker sculp.t

VIEW OF DUKINFIELD HALL.



E. Dayes del.t Sparrow sculp.t

VIEW OF DUKINFIELD BRIDGE.



VIEW OF DUKINFIELD LODGE.

Publish'd May 7. 1795. by I. Stockdale, Piccadilly.

and publiſhed at the requeſt of Mr. Hay and his lady. The annexed view of the Lodge was taken in 1794.

Mr. Aſtley, upon coming to the eſtate, among many other improvements, put the roads in it in good repair, and built two good ſtone bridges acroſs the Tame, one at Staley-bridge, the other leading from the lodge to Aſhton; of this laſt we have given a view, taken from above. At the end of it are two good houſes, affording one of the moſt pleaſing ſituations in the neighbourhood. At this bridge three canals will meet, viz. the Mancheſter and Aſhton, the Peak-foreſt, and the Huddersfield, the latter of which will paſs by a tunnel through a large deep ſand bank.

On the ſummit above Dukinfield-lodge ſtands a very ancient diſſenter's chapel, built of ſtone, and ſurrounded with a burying-ground planted with firs. It has a large congregation, noted for fine ſingers, and was long under the care of the Rev. Mr. Buckley. Here lie buried ſome of the Dukinfield family. The chapel is a fine ſtation for an extenſive proſpect, and is itſelf a ſtriking object from the vicinity. Adjoining to it, Mr. Aſtley built a large and commodious inn, which uſed to be much frequented by parties from Mancheſter. Near to this place he erected a handſome circus of houſes for the accommodation of induſtrious inhabitants, which was filled as ſoon as finiſhed. The buildings are of brick, and the road divides it into two half circles. From a water engine which he built in the Tame for the uſe of the lodge, the water is forced up to a reſervoir, whence the circus and moſt of the town is ſupplied.

Between

Between the lodge and the diſſenter's chapel is a neat chapel belonging to the Moravians, furniſhed with an organ; and adjoining it is a very extenſive range of buildings, once inhabited by an orderly and induſtrious colony of that fraternity, who carried on a variety of trades and occupations. Theſe buildings were erected at a great expence by the community, under the promiſe of a renewal of the leaſes when they ſhould drop, which, in conſequence of the eſtate's going out of the Dukinfield family, became null. Many negotiations were carried on with Mr. Aſtley for the purpoſe of accommodating the buſineſs upon equitable terms; but after waiting ſome years without effect, the ſociety determined on a removal, and accordingly erected their preſent fine building at Fairfield, of which an account has already been given. Their former ſettlement at Dukinfield now looks like a deſerted village. The chapel is ſtill their property, held by the life of one old man; and ſervice is performed in it by a reſident maintained in the place.

A principal perſon in conducting the treaty with Mr. Aſtley was the late Rev. Mr. La Trobe, a perſon highly reſpected, not only by his own fraternity, but by the public at large, to whom he was known by many ingenious writings, and by a truly Chriſtian character. On his death the following character of him was printed in the London Chronicle:

"On Wedneſday evening, Nov. 29, 1786, died, at his houſe in Fetter-lane, moſt ſincerely lamented, in the 59th year of his age, the Rev. Mr. Benjamin La Trobe. By a large circle of acquaintance, he was known, reſpected, and eſteemed. The goodneſs of his heart, and the affability of his diſpoſition, endeared him to all his connections. Diſtinguiſhed in the practice and profeſſion of every Chriſtian virtue, few



THE REV.D BENJAMIN LA TROBE.

Born April 19.th 1728. Died Nov.r 29.th 1786 in the 59.th Year of his Age

London Pub.d June 20. 1793 by John Stockdale, Piccadilly.

few men poſſeſſed a greater liberality of ſentiment, or a more general and extenſive knowledge of men and things. His laſt moments ſhewed that he knew his Redeemer liveth, and that he could meet him with joy: and thus, after a long and painful illneſs of nineteen weeks, which he bore with uncommon patience, he died, as he lived, in perfect reſignation to the will of his Maker, an ornament to his profeſſion, and a friend to mankind. His death will be a loſs to his afflicted family and friends, of which thoſe only who knew his value moſt can form the idea. In the early part of life he joined the church of the United Brethren, and till his death proved its zealous friend and protector. The truly Chriſtian and benevolent principles of the Brethren were ſtrictly conformable to his own ſentiments; and, becoming an indefatigable paſtor among them, he proved an uſeful inſtrument for many years in promoting the laudable purpoſes of the Society, both at home and abroad. In a variety of publications, which he carefully ſuperintended for the preſs, he removed every aſperſion againſt the Brethren, and firmly eſtabliſhed their reputation. To ſum up his character in few words, he was an honeſt man, and the fruits of his faithful ſervices, as a miniſter of the goſpel, will long remain an emblem of his worth and integrity."

The annexed portrait of him was, by the favour of Mrs. Hay, taken from an original and excellent painting at Dukinfield-Lodge, executed by Mr. Aſtley himſelf, who had a high regard for Mr. La Trobe.

The townſhip of Dukinfield is very valuable, abounding in mines and quarries that yield a conſiderable revenue. The coal-pits are from 60 to 105 yards in depth, according to the bearing of the ſtrata. Iron ore is found in great abundance, and the ſmelting of iron ſeems to have been

been carried on here at a remote period; for in a field called the *Brun Yorth*, (a provincial pronunciation of Burnt Earth) the ſcoriæ of iron have been met with in conſiderable quantity: alſo the ore in one of the mines has been found wanting, while the other ſtrata remained in their regular poſition. Among Mr. Aſtley's projects was that of the erection of an iron foundry upon the eſtate, which, from the number of hands employed, greatly increaſed its population. But after a great deal of money ſpent in building works and houſes, he gave up his concern in it, and let it to a company at Mancheſter, who likewiſe, after a ſhort trial, abandoned it: the foundry was then pulled down, and a large cotton factory is erected in its place, the wheel of which is turned by the ſame ſtream. It is the property of Mr. Ollivant of Mancheſter. Above the bridge is another work of the ſame kind. The cotton trade introduced here, while it affords employment to all ages, has debilitated the conſtitutions and retarded the growth of many, and made an alarming increaſe in the mortality. This effect is greatly to be attributed to the pernicious cuſtom, ſo properly reprobated by Dr. Percival and other phyſicians, of making the children in the mills work night and day, one ſet getting out of bed when another goes into the ſame, thus never allowing the rooms to be well ventilated. The length of life muſt formerly have been remarkable here, if we may judge by the following complaint of ſhortneſs of days, in an epitaph on a perſon aged ſeventy-one buried in the chapel-yard:

All ye that do behold this ſtone,
Pray think how *quickly* I was gone;
Make haſte, repent, no time delay,
Leſt Death *as ſoon* ſnatch you away.

The number of families in this town in 1794, was 252.

One


PART OF YORKSHIRE
ENVIRONS
of
MOTTRAM
in
LONGDENDALE.
Bucton Castle
Harts head
Knott Lane
Taunton Hall
Grow Hill
ASHTON UNDER LINE
Charles Town
Dukinfield
Dukinfield Lodge
Dukinfield Hall
Newton Moor
Newton Green
Denton
Haughton
Hyde Chapel
Godley Green
Godley Hall
Werneth
Beacom Houses
Chadkirk
Marple Bridge
Marple Hall
Marple Chapel
Mellor
Ashes
Hill Top
Podmore
Stayley Mill
Stayley Bridge
The Stocks
Castle Hall
Gorse Hall
Ashes
Arplee
Tong Fold
Harrop Edge
Hough Hill
Dewsnap
Yentree
Firtrees
Hattersly
Whitegate House
Hague
Hill end
Bottom Hall
Wood Seates
Moor Fold
Stirrup
Chisworth
Charlesworth
Glossop
Dinting Glossop
Broad Bottom Br.
Simmondly
Hollingworth
Raworth
Bradshaw
Holly Wood End
Dirty Lane
Ludworth
Compstall Br.
Cote Green
Sand Hill
Lane End
Chatterton Lane
Smithy Lane
Heys
Hollins
Heathy Bank
Hill Brow
Chatterton
Long-ley
Thornset Fields
Cobden
Coldwall Nook
Wetmore
Bottoms Hall
Oldknow's Factory
Knowl
Offerton Hall
Waterside
Goyt Hall
Bredbury Hall
Cross Moor
Water Meeting
Berwick Hill
the Five Houses
Romiley
Redbrow Fold
Mersey River
Peak Forest Canal
River Tame
Canal to Huddersfield
Canal from Manchester
To Manchester
Featherbed Moss
The Brushes
Moor Side
Inlended
Turnpike Road
Hollingworth Head
Raworth
Chunah
Whitfield
Hadfield
Glossop Dale
Derbyshire
Cheshire
Lancashire
Yorkshire
Hurst
Broom Stair Bridge
Wilson Brook
Red Pump
Tetlow Fould
Pudding Lane
Mottram in Longdendale
Coal-Pits
Wooley Bridge
Wooley Mill
Sidebottoms Factory
Thorncliff Hall
Turner's Factory
Pullfield
Hadfield
Factory
Old Hall
Wednesbrough Street
Carriwell Mills Factory
Row Cross
Silver Spring
Markey Hill
Harrisons Fold
Coal Pits
Newton Moor
Martin Street
Cotton Work
Sidebottoms Cotton Work
Gibraltar
Smithy Fold
Hyde Bridge
Hyde Hall
Burden Hall
Beel Bridge
Water Engine
Woodley Green
Butterhouse Green
Greave Fold
Low Werneth
Cheethams Smithy
Higham
Hole House Fold
Port from Stock
Arnfield
Timbrisk
Moor Side
Hollinworth Hall
Side bottom Fould
Ridge
Higham Fold
Old Hall
Ashton Mill
Bridge Hill
Hill Lane
Harrod Hall
Hurst Cross
Oak
Green Hurst
Hazle Hurst
Lussley
Cock Bank
Ivy House Bank
Smithy Fold
Higher Hill
Chamber Hall
Tanners Fold
Park
Quickstye Hill
Castle Houses
the Carr
Scout Hill
Moor Gate
the Wood
The Fold
Hill Top
the Green
Spaw
Gamesly
Mossley Factory
Mossley Bridge
Mossley Br.
Alexandra Castle
Cross Cliffe
Park Hill
Long Lane
Houses
Spring
Ashes
Hollins
Heathy Bank
Hill Brow
Chatterton Lane
Hall
Town Clough
Lane
Nabtop
Marple Bridge
Marple Hall
Holly Wood End
Bradshaw
Raworth
Hollingworth Head
Turnpike Road
Long-ley
Thornset Fields
Cobden
Coldwall Nook
Wetmore
Bottoms Hall
Oldknow's Factory
Knowl
Podmore
Hill Top
Ashes
Mellor
Town Clough
Lane
Marple Hall
Marple Bridge
Nabtop
Lane End
Sand Hill
Cote Green
Chatterton Lane
Smithy Lane
Holly Wood End
Heys
Hollins
Heathy Bank
Hill Brow
Chatterton
Hall

One mile from hence is *Newton Moor*, under which coals have been got for ages at different depths. The water is pumped out and the coals raiſed by ſteam engines, which are now generally taking place of the former horſe-machines. On one ſide of the moor is a new-built row of houſes inhabited by weavers, called Muſlin-ſtreet, erected from the ſavings of their induſtry.

Round many of the old coal pits hereabouts, where nothing elſe would grow, Mr. Aſtley planted fir trees, which have thriven well, and now form little woods, which have a pleaſing appearance, and in time may be profitable—a practice worthy of imitation!

The greater part of the Dukinfield eſtate is good paſture and meadow land, rich as well above as below ground. The manure is principally lime, with marl on the lighter grounds. The Peak-foreſt canal paſſing through it will be of great advantage. The inhabitants are principally ſupplied with proviſions from the Aſhton market.

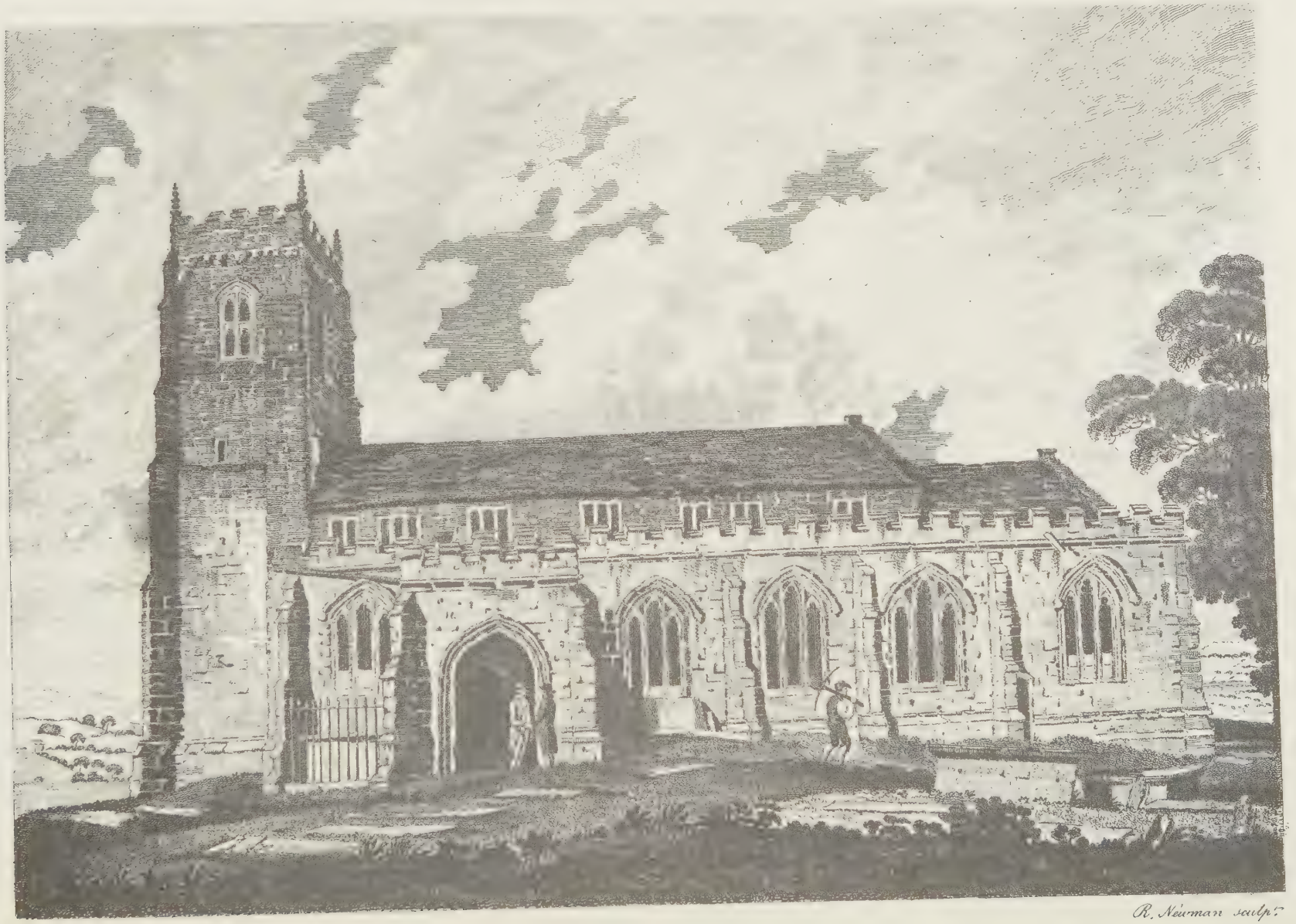
MOTTRAM IN LONGDENDALE PARISH.

THIS pariſh comprehends all the remaining part of the north-eaſtern extremity of Macclesfield hundred. It conſiſts of the parochial town of Mottram, and a number of ſmall villages and hamlets, and contains one chapel of eaſe, that of Wood-head, beſides the pariſh church. Mottram, with a conſiderable part of the neighbourhood, and the extenſive moors up Longdendale, belong to the Hon. Wilbraham Tollemache, brother to the earl of Dyſart. As lord of the manor he holds a court leet by his ſteward, at the court-houſe in Mottram, to which the tenants are ſummoned to pay their rents.

Mottram

Mottram is ſituated twelve miles from Mancheſter and ſeven from Stockport, on a high eminence one mile to the weſt of the Merſey, from which river the ground begins to riſe: half the way being ſo ſteep as to make it difficult of acceſs. It forms a long ſtreet well paved both in the town and to ſome diſtance on the roads. It contains 127 houſes, which are for the moſt part built of a thick flag ſtone, and covered with a thick, heavy ſlate, of nearly the ſame quality, no other covering being able to endure the ſtrong blaſts of wind which occaſionally occur. Of late, many houſes in the ſkirts of the town are built with brick. About fifty years ago, the houſes were few in number, and principally ſituated on the top of the hill, adjoining the church-yard, where is an ancient croſs, and at a ſmall diſtance the parſonage houſe, now gone much to decay, and occupied by working people. It is only of late years that the town has had any conſiderable increaſe, which has been chiefly at the bottom of the hill, but ſome latterly on the top. Many of the houſes are occupied by ſhop-keepers of various kinds, for the accommodation of the town and neighbourhood, to which it ſerves as a ſort of market. There are alſo eight public houſes, which, with twenty-eight more in the vicinity, are certainly many more than can be wanted, and form no ſmall nuiſance by the encouragement they afford to tippling and idleneſs. The cotton trade is the principal ſource of employment to the young people in the town, and the ſurrounding diſtrict. Within a ſmall circuit in this neighbourhood there are twelve large cotton machines worked by water, beſides a great number of ſmaller ones, turned by horſes, or by ſmall ſtreams.

The church of Mottram is a large ſtately building, of immemorial antiquity, of which the annexed view is an exact repreſentation. It is built of a coarſe, grey ſtone, full of ſmall pebbles or flints, of a moſt

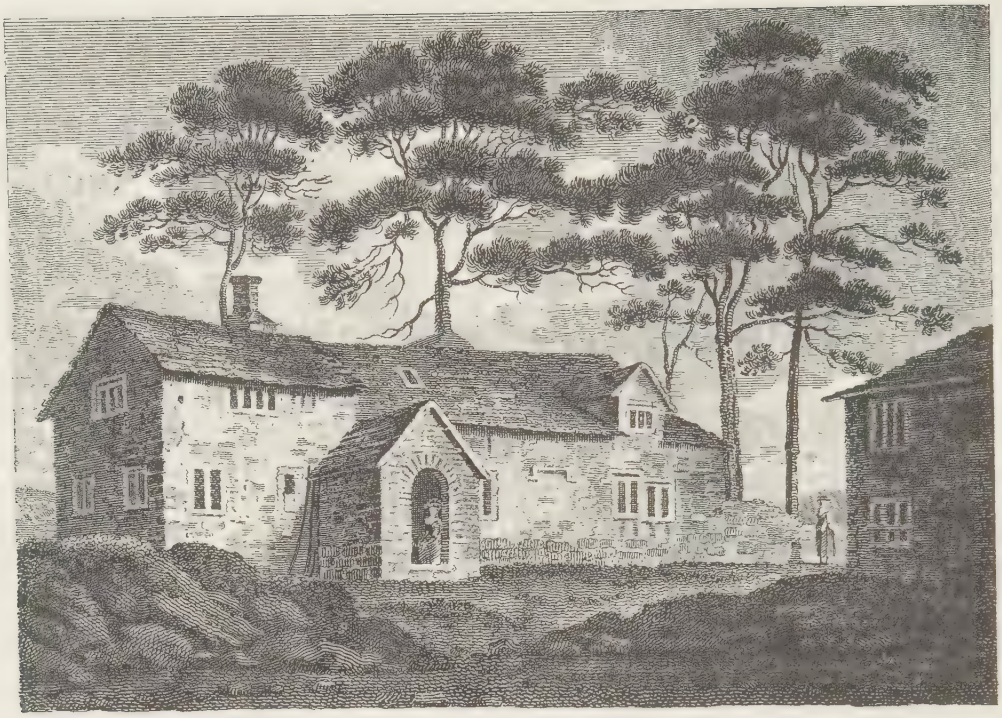


C. Dayes del.r

R. Newman sculp.r

VIEW OF MOTTRAM CHURCH.

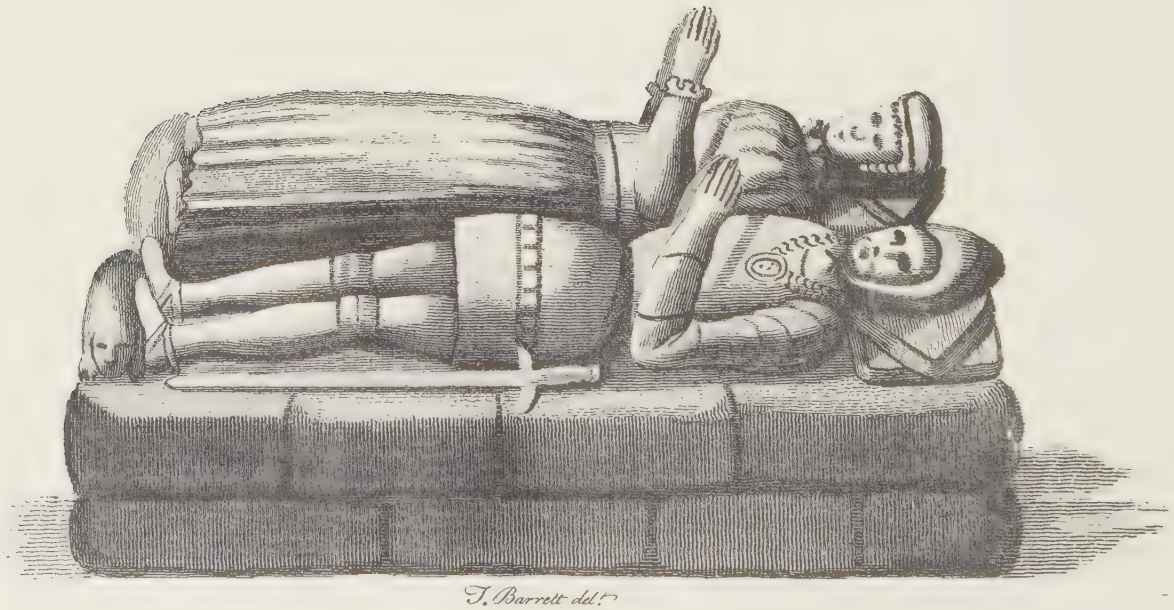
Publish'd July 5.1794 by I. Stockdale, Piccadilly.



E. Dayes del.t

Sparrow sculp.t

View of a COTTAGE at ROE-CROSS



T. Barrett del.t

RALPH STEALEY & his WIFE.

Publish'd June 4. 1795. by I. Stockdale, Piccadilly.

moſt durable quality, every ſtone being as perfect as when firſt laid in. The ſtone is ſuppoſed to have come from a rock called Tinſell-Norr, which is of a ſimilar quality. It can be eaſily cut in the quarry, but becomes nearly as hard as flint when expoſed to the air.

In the church is a very ancient and rude monument, called old Roe and his wife. The figures have their hands elevated as at prayer. He is in armour, with a pointed helmet, a collar of S. S. about his neck, and a ſword by his ſide. The dreſs of both is that of the 15th century, and each has an animal at the feet. There is neither date nor inſcription on the monument, and many fabulous ſtories concerning them are handed down by tradition among the inhabitants. But Mr. Thomas Barrett, of Mancheſter, (who made the drawing for the annexed plate in Auguſt 1794) conjectures the effigies to be thoſe of Ralph Stealey and his wife. Tradition ſays, that the perſon interred came the Staley road to Mottram, and ſtopt at a croſs in the way, called Row-croſs, probably Road-croſs; and Mr. Barrett ſuppoſes that all memory relative to the monument being loſt except that of this Row-croſs, the effigy has derived its name from thence.

There is likewiſe a fine monument* of Mr. Serjeant Bretland, having a whole length ſtatue in white marble, on which is the following inſcription:

H. S E.
Quicquid mortale fuit
REGINALDI BRETLAND, A. L. S.
Familia non ignobili orti:
Virtute, Doctrina, Ingenio Præclari.

* William Egerton, Eſq. of Tatton, who purchaſed the Bretland eſtate, pays by way of fine one ſhilling annually for the cleanſing of this monument.

Qui

Qui
Conſulendo prudens, Eloquendo facundus, Agendo fortis,
Pacis ſtudioſus, Rixarum fugax, Clientibus in maximis fidus,
Res aliorum ſibi commiſſas tam diligenter quam ſuas adminiſtrabat.
Neque conſtituere Litium Actiones, quam controverſias tollere maluit.
Nullus illi per otium dies exît.
Vitæ tandem ſatur,
Animam virtutibus onuſtam, beneque de repub: meritam,
Placide Deo reddidit, die tertio Aprilis, Anno Dom: 1703,
Ætat. ſuæ 62.
Semper Laboremus.
Omnia ſunt Hominum tenui pendentia filo,
Et ſubito caſu quæ valuere ruunt,
Dum loquimur, fugerit invida
Ætas, Carpe diem, quam minimum credula Poſtero.

TRANSLATION.

Here lies buried
Whatever was mortal
Of Reginald Bretland, A. L. S.*
Deſcended from an honorable family:
Illuſtrious in Virtue, in Learning, in Genius.
Who
Prudent in deliberating, eloquent in ſpeaking, reſolute in acting,
Anxious for peace, avoiding litigation, faithful in the higheſt degree to his clients,
Managed the affairs of others committed to his charge as diligently as his own.
Nor ever preferred inſtituting a law-ſuit to removing the cauſe of controverſy.
No day paſt by him unemployed.
At laſt, ſatiated with life,
His ſoul, replete with virtues, well deſerving of his country,
He peacefully ſurrendered to God, on the third day of April, in the Year of our Lord, 1703,
In the Year of his Age 62.
Let us labour inceſſantly.
On a ſlight thread depend man's tranſient joys,
With ſudden lapſe his firmeſt hopes decay,
Time, while we ſpeak, on envious pinions flies,
Snatch the fleet hour, nor truſt a future day.

* A. L. S. probably, Aulæ Lincolnienſis Socius, A Member of the Society of Lincoln's Inn.

The

The church has a gallery on the ſouth ſide, lately new pewed, at the end of which is the ſingers' gallery. It has a fine ring of bells. The aſcent from the town is by a flight of about ninety ſtone ſteps; the hill being ſteep and difficult. The living, value about £.100, is in the gift of the biſhop of Cheſter; the preſent incumbent is the Rev. James Turner, who this year ſucceeded the Rev. Mr. Kinder, deceaſed. The church-yard is ſpacious, and ſo full of tombs, that it muſt ſoon be enlarged. A neat methodiſt chapel was lately erected, which is well attended. Adjoining the church-yard is an ancient free-ſchool, with a ſmall houſe for the maſter. This for many years has been of little uſe to the inhabitants, partly owing to the great age of the late maſter, Mr. Warldeworth, who died laſt year. It is now in the poſſeſſion of the rector, Mr. Turner, aſſiſted by the Rev. Mr. Monkhouſe, and it is to be hoped will for the future anſwer the beneficial purpoſes of its inſtitution. The neglect in the management of this ſchool obliged the inhabitants ſome years ago to build another on Wedneſcough Green at a ſmall diſtance, which has been well attended ſince its commencement by Mr. Heathcote, and has been filled with ſcholars, while the free-ſchool in Mottram became a ſinecure.

With regard to the eſtabliſhment and ſalary of Mottram ſchool, it appears from the deeds, which bear date April 20th, 1632, that one Robert Garſett, citizen and alderman of Norwich, left by his will, bearing date March 4th, 1610, £.100 towards the maintenance of a free-ſchool to be erected in Mottram; and that Sir Richard Wilbraham, lord of the manor of Mottram, gave another £.100 to the ſame purpoſe. In 1618 the £.200 was put into the hands of truſtees, who were to employ the intereſt of it toward the maintenance of a ſchoolmaſter till land could be purchaſed. In 1632 land was purchaſed in Haughton,

in

in the pariſh of Bonebury, near Nantwich, Cheſhire. The land is twenty-three Cheſhire acres, and letts for £.25 yearly.—There is alſo a donation of £.5 yearly to the ſchool, which is paid from an eſtate in Romily, in Chadkirk, in the pariſh of Stockport. It was left by one Robert Hyde, of Catten-hall, in the county of Cheſter, grandſon of John Hyde, late dean rural of Macclesfield. He married Catherine, only daughter of John Bretland, of Thornecliff-hall, in this pariſh. He died July 24, 1684, and was buried in this church.

There is alſo belonging to the ſchool a houſe in Mancheſter, which letts for £.14 10s. yearly, ſubject to leys, taxes, and repairs. It was purchaſed in 1751 from timber which was ſold from the eſtate in Haughton. The whole ſalary is £.44 10s. yearly; leys, taxes, and the repairs above-mentioned being deducted. When the ſchool was firſt built, and by whom, we cannot learn. It was rebuilt in the year 1670 at the expence of the pariſhioners and neighbouring inhabitants.

Mottram is ſupplied with water by ſprings. There is one fine well at the very top of the hill, and two others on different ſides of it, from whence pipes might be conveyed to the lower parts of the town at a ſmall expence. Moſt of the hills in this neighbourhood have ſprings on the ſides, and ſome on the tops, all of which are of ſoft water.

Formerly there was not ſufficient buſineſs in Mottram for one butcher: but few ſheep were killed; and ſeldom more than one cow in a week, except at the wake, which feſtival is to this time kept up, with all the ceremony of dreſſing up ruſh carts, and ſtrewing the church and pews with ruſhes. At preſent the town affords a tolerable livelihood for five butchers, and not a week paſſes without the ſlaughter of ſheep and oxen, which

which are chiefly brought from Huddersfield, Barnſley, and Sheffield. Tea has almoſt expelled the good old diſh of the country, thick porridge, though this is ſtill continued in ſome families, who find it makes a much more ſubſtantial breakfaſt, and, as they ſay, "wears better." Oat cakes, leavened and baked thick, are the principal bread of the place, though wheaten loaves are alſo common.

The gradual increaſe of population in this pariſh may be ſeen in the following extract from the regiſter. It is to be obſerved, that every year ſome chriſtenings and burials from other pariſhes are entered, and ſometimes a conſiderable number. Perhaps theſe may have been balanced by thoſe going out of the pariſh.

Year.	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Year.	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.
1745	22	57	40	1786	48	218	78
1750	26	76	80	1787	55	202	146
1755	23	86	54	1788	45	214	97
1760	19	86	43	1789	32	177	102
1765	30	77	48	1790	54	226	105
1770	31	109	68	1791	37	209	140
1775	40	124	95	1792	46	229	176
1780	40	162	62	1793	41	222	131
1785	46	182	82	1794	24	130	136

From the ſummit of the hill in Mottram is a delightful proſpect up Longdendale to the Wood-head, including the beautiful windings of the Merſey, with the high Derbyſhire hills on the eaſt, gradually riſing from it, among which are ſcattered the villages of Hadfield, Padfield, Whitfield, and Charleſworth; and on the weſt the Cheſhire hills, which as well as the Derbyſhire are, with the villages Tintwiſtle and

and Arnfield, paſtured to their tops. The valley is tolerably well wooded with trees of various kinds, but rather ſtinted in their growth. On the other ſide are extenſive proſpects into Lancaſhire, and as far as the Welch mountains. Notwithſtanding the elevated ſituation of Mottram, it is ſurrounded by eminences much higher, from which the church and town are viewed far below, and as if in a deep valley. The principal of theſe hills are Charleſworth-neck, Mouſelow-caſtle, Werneth Low, Tinſell Norr, Wild-bank, and Harrop-edge. The latter affords a peculiarly fine proſpect of the ſurrounding country. From the bottom of this hill, at Row-croſs, was taken, in 1793, the annexed view of Mottram. The ſharp-pointed hill in the back-ground is Charleſworth-neck, which gradually riſes about a mile and a half from the Merſey, and extends to the right for a conſiderable diſtance. At Row-croſs is an ancient favourite cottage of which a view is given. Near this place is a copperas work.

On the ſummit of Mottram-hill is a neat ſtone houſe called *Whitegate-houſe*, built and occupied by Mr. Solomon Lowe. Near it, his ſon has built a cotton factory in a deep valley, concealed from the ſight by an oak wood. From Whitegate-houſe is a ſteep deſcent of near a mile to *Broad-bottom-bridge*, which croſſes the Merſey, in a moſt delightful and romantic ſituation. The bridge was built in 1683. Both its ends reſt on rock. The arch is a fine one, built with ſtone, and kept in good repair. The annexed view was taken in 1793 from below the bridge. In the back ground is ſeen a large cotton factory on the Derbyſhire ſide of the river, lately erected by Meſſrs. Kelſall and Marſland. This pile of building has much injured the pictureſque beauty of the view, concealing a fine wood, in which the river loſes itſelf. The ſpot almoſt equals Matlock in its romantic ſcenery. The

Cat



C. Dayes del.

C. Short sculp.

VIEW OF MOTTRAM.

Publish'd July 16. 1794. by I. Stockdale Piccadilly.



E. Dayes del.r

Sparrow sculp.t &c.

VIEW OF CAT TOR.

Publish'd April 20. 1794 by I. Stockdale Piccadilly.



E. Dayes del.r

T. Milton sculp.

VIEW OF BROAD-BOTTOM BRIDGE.

Cat Torr on the Cheſhire ſide, and the well-wooded rocks on the Derbyſhire, with the river hurrying between, over its rugged and rocky bottom, afford a ſolemn and ſtriking ſpectacle.

The *Cat Torr*, of which a view is annexed, is a perpendicular precipice of eighty feet, overhung with vaſt rocks at the top, on which, and on the ſides, oak trees grow, threatening deſtruction to all below. Its face conſiſts of various ſtrata of rock, coal, or ſlaty matter, and free-ſtone at bottom, all laid as regularly as by the hand of the maſon. The height of the ſummit of Mottram-hill above that of the Cat Torr is about 450 feet. Below the bridge is Broad-bottom, a houſe belonging to Mr. Boſtock, in a very lonely, but pleaſing ſituation, ſurrounded by fine meadow ground, which is partly encircled by the Merſey.

Before we quit the town of Mottram, we ſhall ſay ſomething in commemoration of two of its natives.

Mr. *Lee*, well known as a ſtock-broker under the Royal Exchange, was born at Mottram, and owed his ſucceſs in life in great meaſure to the following circumſtance. When a very young boy, he went with a companion into a neighbouring wood in ſearch of walking ſticks. Coming to a plantation of young aſh trees, they made free with them by cutting as many as they choſe. On returning home they were met by a perſon, who having interrogated them about the manner in which they came by the ſticks, pronounced, "that they would both certainly be "hanged or tranſported." This put them into ſuch a fright, that laying down their loads, they fled the country, and the end of their ramble was London. Lee, being a ſhrewd, ſenſible young lad, made his way from one ſtation to another, till he became partner in a ſtock-broking

king houſe, in which he roſe to be head. With great reputation he acquired a handſome fortune, of which he was in his life-time extremely liberal to his countrymen and relations, giving away hundreds at once, and ſometimes to thoſe who did not make the beſt uſe of it. He died ſome years ago, leaving the principal part of his fortune to his two ſons and relations, with legacies to his friends, and his buſineſs to the late Mr. John Bruckſhaw.

Much more diſtinguiſhed for the endowments of his mind, though much leſs by the favours of fortune, was *Laurence Earnſhaw*, born at Mottram ſoon after the commencement of this century, at a cottage on the high road to Wedneſcough-green, with fir trees in front, which is looked upon by the neighbourhood with almoſt as much veneration as that in which Sir Iſaac Newton was born is by his admirers. From accounts of this extraordinary man in the 57th Vol. Part II. of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, communicated by Mr. Joſiah Beckwith, of Rotherham, and Mr. J. Holt, of Walton, near Liverpool, we ſhall copy ſome of the moſt remarkable particulars.

Lawrence Earnſhaw was put apprentice when a boy to a taylor, and afterwards to a clothier; but neither of theſe employments ſuiting his genius, after ſerving both for eleven years, he put himſelf for a ſhort time to a clock-maker, one Shepley, of Stockport. By the force of native abilities, with the very little inſtruction ſuch an education could give him, he made himſelf one of the moſt univerſal mechaniſts and artiſts ever heard of. He could have taken wool from the ſheeps' backs, manufactured it into cloth, made that cloth into cloaths, and made every inſtrument neceſſary for the clipping, carding, ſpinning, reeling, weaving, fulling, and dreſſing, and making it up for wear, with

with his own hands. He was an engraver, painter, and gilder; he could ſtain glaſs and foil mirrors; was a black-ſmith, white-ſmith, copper-ſmith, gun-ſmith, bell-founder, and coffin-maker; made and erected ſun-dials; mended fiddles; repaired, tuned, played upon, and taught, the harpſichord and virginals; made and mended organs, and optical inſtruments; read and underſtood Euclid; and in ſhort, had a taſte for all ſorts of mechanics, and moſt of the fine arts. Clock-making and repairing was a very favourite employ to him; and he carried ſo far his theory and practice of clock-work, as to be the inventor of a very curious aſtronomical and geographical machine, containing a celeſtial and terreſtrial globe, to which different movements were given, repreſenting the diurnal and annual motions of the earth, the poſition of the moon and ſtars, the ſun's place in the ecliptic, &c. all with the greateſt correctneſs. One of theſe machines curiouſly ornamented was ſold to the earl of Bute for £.150. All the complicated calculations, as well as the execution of this great work, were performed by himſelf. He likewiſe, about 1753, invented a machine to ſpin and reel cotton at one operation, which he ſhowed to his neighbours and then deſtroyed, through the generous, though miſtaken, apprehenſion, that it might take bread from the mouths of the poor. This was previous to all the late inventions of machinery by which the cotton manufactory has been ſo much promoted. He alſo contrived a ſimple and ingenious piece of mechaniſm for raiſing water from a coal-mine. He was acquainted with that equally ſelf-taught genius, the celebrated Brindley, and when they occaſionally met, they did not ſoon part. Earnſhaw was poſſeſſed of an extraordinary degree of ſobriety, never drinking a gill of ale for years after he was grown to manhood. His mien and countenance were far, at the firſt view, from betokening quick parts, but rather announced ſtupidity; but when animated by converſation they

they at once brightened up. He had a good flow of words, and clearly explained his ſubject in the provincial phraſe and dialect of his country. He had a ſick wife and expenſive family, ſo that, notwithſtanding all his trades and ingenuity, he lived and died poor. He died about the year 1764. One of his ſons ſtill reſides in this town.

The neighbourhood of Mottram was formerly famous for the number of halls occupied by their owners, who reſided on their own eſtates, moſt of which are now in the poſſeſſion of farmers. A few of them we ſhall mention.

Hollingworth-hall, or, as it is now generally called, the Old Hall, is a very ancient, ſtrong, ſtone building, ſituated by the ſide of the moors about half a mile from Mottram. It is ſurrounded with gardens and excellent meadow land, and enjoys a pleaſant proſpect. It ſtill belongs to the family of that name; but is now in the occupation of Henry Cardwell, Eſq. a very uſeful and active member of ſociety.

Somewhat further, on the edge of the ſame moors, ſtood *Thorncliffe-hall*, belonging to the family of Bretlands. It was the moſt conſiderable building in theſe parts; but a few years ago much of it was taken down, and the materials ſold. A conſiderable pile is ſtill ſtanding, converted into a farm-houſe. The eſtates belonging to this family were large; and the extenſive range called Werneth-Low was a part of them. The whole is now the property of William Egerton, Eſq. of Tatton, by purchaſe.

Still further, on the very boundary of the moors, is another *Hollingworth-hall*, the property and reſidence of John Whittle, Eſq. It is a large

large ſtone building, with ſpacious rooms in the antique ſtyle, and provided with extenſive and commodious out-houſes.

Half a mile from Mottram, on the road to the Wood-head, are *Wedneſcough-green* and *Treacle-ſtreet*. Theſe two places have of late increaſed very much, owing to the land's being freehold, and ſold for building on. It is chiefly the property of Mr. Egerton, of Tatton.

On the other ſide of Mottram, half a mile on the Stockport road, is *Hatterſley*, which contains a few ſtraggling farm houſes, and a ſmall hamlet called *Brittomley-mill*.

Two miles from Mottram, on the ſame road, is the very ancient village of *Tintwiſtle*, or *Tinſell*, containing thirty-five houſes and a diſſenting chapel. It is entirely built of thick free-ſtone flag, got on the ſpot. Tradition reports this to have been a borough in former times.

Half a mile to the left is *Arnfield*, a ſmall village of ſtraggling houſes, built like the former, and probably as ancient, there being leaſes in ſome of the families dated about 500 years ſince, and couched in a few lines. It is built on the ſides of two ſteep hills parted by a brook, and is the laſt village adjoining the moors.

Betwixt Tintwiſtle and the Wood-head, ſtands on the road ſide *Wood-head Chapel*, ſurrounded with a ſmall burial ground. It has a ſingle bell to call to ſervice the ſurrounding inhabitants, who are thinly ſcattered on the ſides of theſe moors. There is not a houſe within a conſiderable diſtance. The duty is performed by the Rev. Mr. Broadhurſt,

hurſt, twice a day from the Sunday before Holy Thurſday to the middle of October, once a day the reſt of the year.

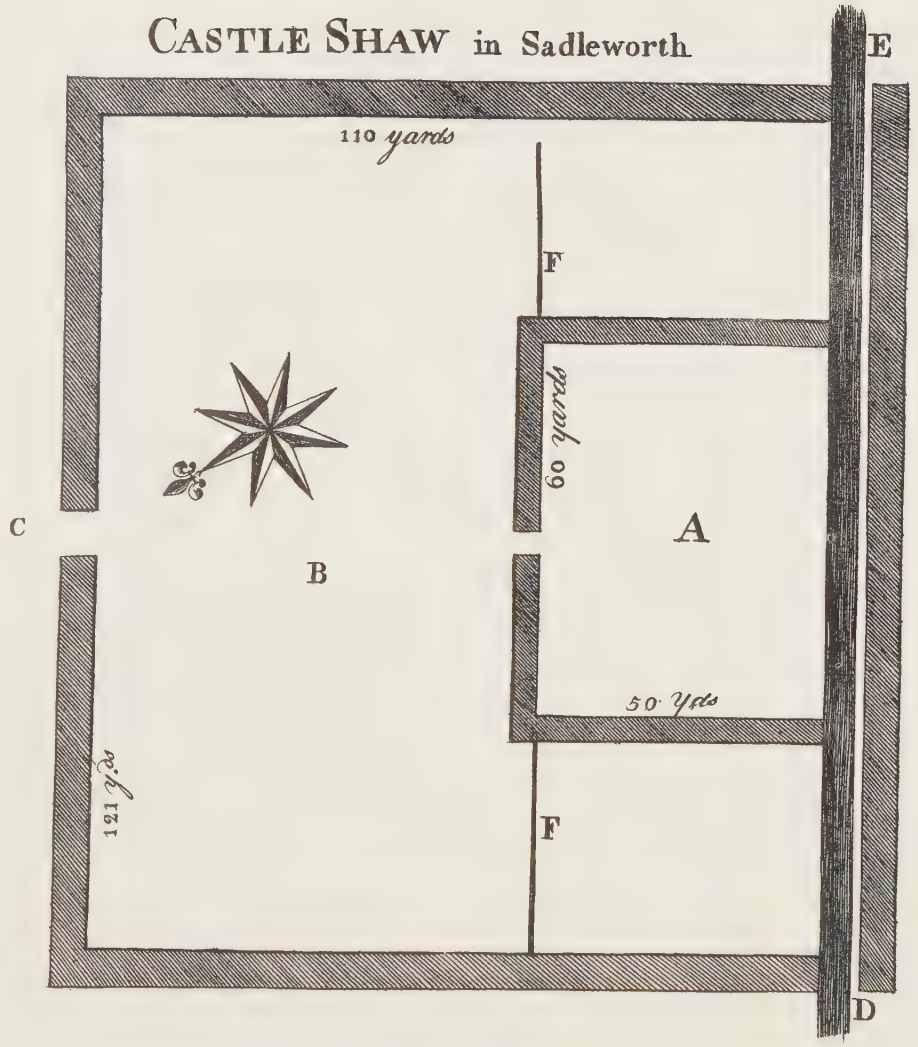
The *Wood-head*, ſeven miles from Mottram, is a place well known to the weary travellers who have croſſed the hills above in their way from Yorkſhire. It conſiſts of three public and a few private houſes. The Merſey even at this place is a very powerful ſtream in winter, pouring down with great rapidity, and ſometimes overflowing the meadows on its banks. It riſes from different ſprings about one mile from the inn called Salter's-brook-houſe, within the Weſt-Riding of Yorkſhire, and rather more than four miles above the Wood-head, and it is joined in its courſe to Mottram by ſeveral rivulets which take their riſe from theſe barren hills and moors, large tracts of which ſcarcely yield a blade of graſs for the half-ſtarved ſheep.

From the Merſey to *Bretland-edge* is a nearly continued aſcent of three miles, on the high road to Huddersfield. On the top of the edge is a moſt extenſive view into Yorkſhire, all fertile land except the range of moors on which you ſtand. On the top of this hill where the waters take oppoſite directions is the boundary between Cheſhire and Yorkſhire.

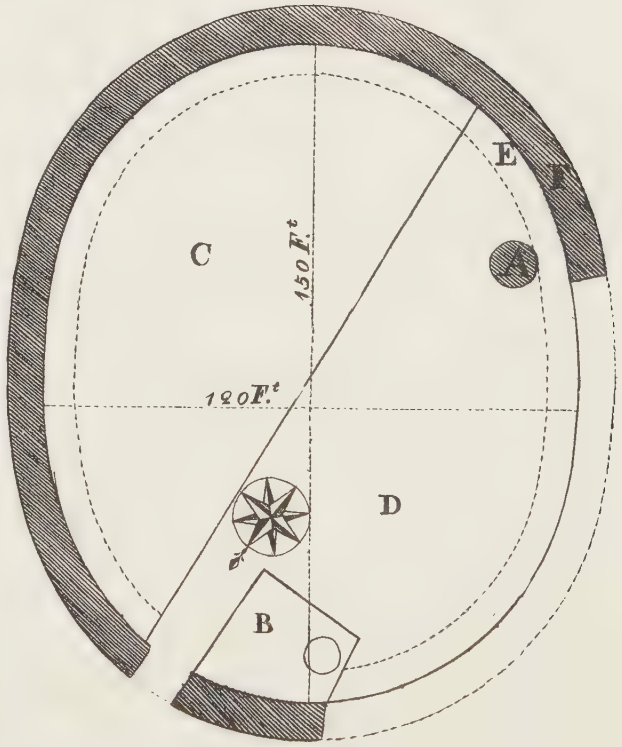
The few inhabitants of the Wood-head cultivate ſmall farms with extenſive ſheep walks. The public houſes depend upon travellers, few of whom paſs without calling; and, indeed, it would be imprudent for them to neglect feeding their horſes here, as they have no other opportunity of doing it for a conſiderable diſtance, eſpecially on aſcending to Bretland-edge. From Wood-head an excellent turnpike road has lately been made acroſs the Merſey to Chapel-le-Frith.

This

CASTLE SHAW in Sadleworth



BUCTON CASTLE in Micklehurst



Pub.d 14 Nov.r 1790. by I. Stockdale. Piccadilly.

This neighbourhood is not without its antiquities, chains of poſts having been anciently eſtabliſhed on the heights for the purpoſes of defence or exploration. Of theſe are ſome in Yorkſhire and Derbyſhire, which will be mentioned in their proper places. A remarkable one in the pariſh of Mottram and county of Cheſter, is *Buſton-caſtle*, in Micklehurſt, ſituated on the north-weſtern edge of the great moſs called Featherbed-moſs, at about an equal diſtance between Mottram and Saddleworth. It is of an oval form, conſiſting of a rampart and ditch, and ſtands on the ſummit of a high hill, very ſteep towards the weſt and ſouth, commanding a view over the ſouth part of Lancaſhire and the whole of Cheſhire, and eaſterly to the Weſt Nab in Yorkſhire. Its plan is ſeen in the annexed engraving, taken, with its explanation, from an account drawn up by the late Thomas Percival, Eſq. and obligingly communicated by Mr. Pickford, of Royton.

EXPLANATION:

A. The well.

B. Place where the country people dug in 1730, expecting to find treaſure.

C. Ruins of buildings, ſix or ſeven feet higher than the parade.

D. An inner court or parade.

E. The rampart.

F. The ditch; wanting on the weſt ſide, which is the ſteepeſt.

The inner ſlope of the rampart is twenty-ſeven feet, its perpendicular ſix feet; outer ſlope from the top of the rampart to the bottom of the ditch, thirty-five feet; inner ſlope of the ditch, ſixteen feet; depth of the ditch, eight feet; width at bottom, ſix feet; height of rampart above

above the level of the ground, eight feet; breadth of gateway ſixteen feet.

The land in the neighbourhood of Mottram is moſtly meadow and paſturage. Some wheat and oats are grown, and potatoes are cultivated. Garden vegetables are ſcarce. The ſoil is generally of a loamy or clayey nature, and marl is found in ſeveral places. The farms are commonly ſmall; from £.10 to £.30 per annum, few exceed £.50. The ſmaller ones are let very high; nor could the tenant pay ſuch prices but for the induſtry of himſelf and family, who are in general weavers, hatters, or cotton ſpinners, and ſometimes all in the ſame houſe. The chief article of the farm is a roomy houſe, and their two or three cows produce milk and butter for family uſe, with a little to ſpare for making up the rent. On the commencement of the preſent war and failure of trade, many of the ſmall farmers ware ruined, and their little all ſold off. The old farm houſes are nearly all built of ſtone, with heavy flag-ſlate roofs.

The climate is cold and inclement, owing to the currents of wind from the hills, and the vaſt quantity of rain which falls, keeping the low grounds for a great part of the year a perfect puddle. The roads are ſeldom dry except in July and Auguſt. It almoſt daily happens that perſons on the top of a hill are deluged with rain, while thoſe in the valley are dry; and, on the other hand, that clouds ſail up a valley and drench it, while the ſurrounding eminences enjoy fair weather.

The manure for land is chiefly lime, of which a conſiderable quantity is required; and unleſs the tenant can afford to lay it on, his herbage becomes ſour and turns to ruſhes. The lime is brought from Chapel-le-Frith on the backs of ſmall Welch horſes, which

run

run up and down the hills with as ſure a foot as goats, and have little other food than what they pick up by the road ſide on their return, while the drivers take refreſhment. The lime generally coſts at Mottram 1*s.* 6*d.* per load, which is only a ſmall ſack. The Peak-foreſt canal, which will come within four miles of Mottram, is expected to reduce the price nearly one half; and there are ſome thoughts of having a ſmall canal from the above to run up Longdendale, upon Dr. Anderſon's plan, which may be made for leſs than a turnpike road. This would be of the greateſt utility to the country, as it would promote the cultivation of the moors to a great extent, and would cauſe a demand of its mineral products, of which little is now got, on account of the expence of land carriage.

The vaſt rock at Tinſell-Norr conſiſts of ſolid blocks of the durable ſtone already deſcribed as the material of Mottram church. It is well calculated for uſes in which beauty is not the object, as ordinary buildings, kirb ſtones, and poſts, &c. Under Bretland-edge is a quarry of flag ſtone, lately diſcovered by Mr. Boar of the Wood-head, who has obtained a leaſe of the ſame. The ſtone is got ſix feet in length, and proportionally broad. Near the top of the hill is a good ſtone for building, ſofter and of better quality than any in the neighbourhood, and nothing prevents its uſe but the difficulty of conveyance.

Coals of an indifferent quality are occaſionally got at Mottram, and on the Derbyſhire ſide in different places.

On the top of Tinſell-Norr, Wood-head, and other high hills, are deep and thick peat moſſes, in which fuel is got by the poor, and trees are occaſionally found in ſituations where it would certainly be ſcarcely poſſible

poſſible to make them grow at preſent. Theſe peat bogs have ſometimes been ſet on fire in the ſummer, and have long continued to burn in one grand body of flame.

During the ſummer, men, women, and children are conſtantly employed in cutting and burning fern on the ſides of the moors, the aſhes of which are ſold to the ſoap-boilers.

Cranberries and cloudberries grow on theſe moors, the latter of which *(Rubus Chamæmorus)* is a delicate fruit, little known and rare. Whinberries grow in great abundance about Tinſell-Norr, and the ſurrounding rocks, which are in many places covered with ſtunted oak trees, which do not attain a greater height than ſix feet. Moor-game or red grous frequent theſe moors in great numbers, and the different lords of the manors are at conſiderable expence to preſerve them from poachers.

Salmon ſwim a great way up the Merſey, and their young, called *brood*, and already mentioned under Mancheſter, run up the rivulets among the moors to an incredible height, and are eaſily caught in the ſhallow water by perſons ſkilled in groping. Trout is alſo plentiful in theſe ſtreams, and is occaſionally ſold at ſixpence per pound. They are generally caught with a rod and line. Theſe, and a few eels, are the only fiſh in this part of the Merſey.

III.—*DERBYSHIRE.*

High Peak Hundred.

GLOSSOP PARISH.

THIS comprehends a large tract of mountainous country in the north-weſt angle of the Peak. The living is a vicarage of the clear value of 42*l.* 0*s.* 11½*d.*; the duke of Norfolk is patron. It contains the chapelries of *Mellor*, of *Hayfield*, and of *Charleſworth*; alſo the liberty of *Chinley*, and ſeveral other ſmaller hamlets. The houſes in Gloſſop and part of the pariſh have been numbered to 333; the families in the remainder, at 788. The inhabitants of this pariſh are ſupported by the manufactures of cotton and wool. In the part bordering on Yorkſhire, a conſiderable quantity of fine woollen cloth is made. In the ſouthern and weſtern parts, the principal employment is ſpinning and weaving of cotton.

The town of Gloſſop is three miles eaſt of Mottram, and ſtands on a riſing bank, at the foot of which runs a ſmall ſtream, that ſoon joins the Merſey below. It is a ſmall village in which is a very ancient church: the living is now occupied by the Rev. Chriſtopher Howe. The yard has a venerable appearance from the number of railed-in tombs of families of conſequence. In the church is a very ancient monument

nument ſimilar to that of old Roe and his wife at Mottram, and a modern one of the late Joſeph Hague, Eſq. of Park-hall. This is a fine marble buſt by Bacon, and coſt four hundred guineas. The following inſcription is under the buſt on a tablet of marble:

Sacred to the Memory of JOSEPH HAGUE, Eſq.
Whoſe Virtues as a Man
Were as diſtinguiſhed, as his character as a merchant:
Favoured with the bleſſings of Providence,
He enjoyed the fruits of his induſtry at an early period;
And by the moſt indefatigable purſuits in trade,
Acquired an immenſe fortune,
Which he diſtributed with great liberality
Amongſt his relations in his own life time.
He was born at Chunal in the Year 1695,
And in 1716 ſettled in London, where he married Jane, the only
Daughter of Edmund Blagge, of Macclesfield, in Cheſhire,
By whom he had ten ſons and two daughters,
Who all died in their minority.
He built and endowed the Charity School at Whitfield, in 1778,
And died at Park Hall in this Pariſh, the 12th March, 1786,
Aged 90 Years;
Leaving the annual Intereſt of £.1000 towards the cloathing
12 poor Men, and 12 poor Women, out of the eight Townſhips
Of GLOSSOP DALE for ever;
Beſides other charitable Donations to Gloſſop
And the Chapelry of Hayfield.

Mr. Hague was a wonderful inſtance of the effects of induſtry, joined with integrity and perſeverance. He was the child of poverty, and began while a young boy with a few pence, to buy and ſell ſmall articles, which he carried in a baſket, that ſoon became too bulky, and he

he then purchaſed an aſs. From one ſtep to another, the profits of his dealings accumulated in a few years to a large fortune, and he became a very opulent merchant. On the loſs of his children, he adopted a family of the name of Doxon, of about ſeven children, his nephews and nieces, from Padfield, near Gloſſop, and gave them all good educations, and with it handſome fortunes; ſome of them are married to the firſt bankers in Lombard-ſtreet, and others reſide in Mancheſter. He divided the greateſt part of his fortune amongſt his relations during his life-time, while in retirement at Park-hall, near Hayfield; an example of good ſenſe and true generoſity, which it would be happy for mankind if perſons of property were to imitate, inſtead of indulging the idle vanity of being recorded as dying worth a vaſt ſum of money, left to perſons for whom, perhaps, they never ſhowed the leaſt friendſhip during their lives!

Gloſſop lies in one of the deepeſt vallies in theſe parts, ſurrounded on all ſides by the higheſt hills in the Peak, ſeveral of which riſe a mile and a half from the town. On the top of one of theſe hills, one mile from Gloſſop, is a fine round hill called *Mouſelow Caſtle*, on which there probably was formerly a caſtle or ſtation, being a ſpot well calculated for ſuch a purpoſe. It ſtands very high, and commands a moſt extenſive proſpect over the ſurrounding country. About fifteen years ſince it was paſtured to the top, on which it was plain to be ſeen that a building had ſtood, there being deep holes and a quantity of ſtones. The top occupies a large ſpace of ground. The whole of the hill, as well as the top, is now planted with firs of about ten years ſtanding, and the owner, Mr. Howard, has given it the name of Caſtle-hill.

On

On the top of another hill near Gloſſop is a good ſlate quarry of the thick flag ſort, which ſupplies the principal part of the ſurrounding country for a conſiderable diſtance.

There are ſome large cotton factories in this neighbourhood and ſeveral ſmall ones.

The land in this valley is chiefly paſture and meadow, and ſome of it very good.

At a ſmall diſtance from the town ſtands an ancient building, formerly called *Royl-hall*, but now changed by the proprietor, Mr. Howard, to *Gloſſop-hall*. It ſerves as a retreat during the ſhooting ſeaſon of moor-game, of which there is great plenty. Round it are planted large firs, and in front a very extenſive hill is covered with firs, of many years growth, through which are pleaſant roads. The following lines have long remained on one of the panes of glaſs at this hall:

Here hills, with naked heads, the tempeſts meet,
Rocks at their ſides, and torrents at their feet.

This hall and neighbourhood, as well as very extenſive moors, are the property of Barnard Howard, Eſq. who has reſolved to continue planting a conſiderable part of theſe moors yearly with firs, which in this diſtrict ſeem to thrive well. As wood in this country is a ſcarce article, the grown firs are now very valuable, the off branches being valuable for fuel, as there are no coals in this neighbourhood of any conſequence.

In

In this pariſh are the remains of a very ancient building, called *Melandra Caſtle*, of which the late Rev. Mr. Watſon, of Stockport, has given a deſcription in the 3d volume of the *Archæologia*, part of which we ſhall tranſcribe. For a plan of this caſtle, ſee p. 138.

" On the ſouth ſide of the river Merſey, (or, as ſome call it, the Edrow) near Wooley-bridge, in the townſhip of Gameſley, and pariſh of Gloſſop, in Derbyſhire, is a Roman ſtation which no writer has mentioned, nor did any one know, as far as can be informed, that it had been conſtructed by that people, till July 1771, when I made this diſcovery. The country people give it the name of *Melandra Caſtle*; the area of it is called the Caſtle-yard, and eleven fields adjoining to it are named in old deeds the Caſtle Carrs.

" It is ſituated, like many Roman ſtations, on moderately elevated ground, within the confluence of two rivers, and was well ſupplied with good water. Very fortunately the plough has not defaced it, ſo that the form of it cannot be miſtaken. The ramparts, which have conſiderable quantities of hewn ſtones in them, ſeem to be about three yards broad. On two of the ſides were ditches, of which part remains, the reſt is filled up; on the other ſides there are ſuch declivities, that there was no occaſion for this kind of defence. On the north-eaſt ſide, between the ſtation and the water, great numbers of worked ſtones lie promiſcuouſly, both above and under ground; there is alſo a ſubterraneous ſtream of water here, and a large bank of earth, which runs from the ſtation to the river. It ſeems very plain that on this, and on the north-weſt ſides, have been many buildings; and theſe are the only places where they could ſafely ſtand, becauſe of the declivity between them and the two rivers.

" The

" The extent of this ſtation is about 122 yards by 112. The four gates, or openings into it, are exceedingly viſible, as is alſo the foundation of a building within the area, about twenty-five yards ſquare, which in all probability was the prætorium.

" Very near the eaſt angle, the preſent tenant of the ground under the duke of Norfolk, found ſeveral years ago, as he was ſearching for ſtones to build him a houſe, a ſtone about ſixteen inches long, and twelve broad, which is now walled up in the front of his houſe, and contains an inſcription which I read thus; *Cohortis primae Friſianorum Centurio Valerius Vitalis.*"

From theſe circumſtances, Dr. Watſon concludes this to have been a ſiſter fort to that of Mancheſter, which was garriſoned by another part of the Friſian cohort; and he endeavours to trace the courſe of the Roman roads leading through it, one of which, from the Roman ſtation at Brough, in Derbyſhire, is ſtill uſed for a good part of the way, being ſet with large ſtones in the middle, and having proper drains cut on each ſide where it runs over moſſy grounds. It has the name of the *Doctor's Gate.*

At Melandra was lately found a large ſword, and what is more extraordinary, a cannon ball. Tradition reports that there was once under the caſtle a city or town called Wooley, on the banks of the Merſey, near the bridge of that name. Hearths and aſhes have been ploughed up in this place.

A few years ago an act was obtained for the making a new turnpike road, from Buxton to Chapel-in-le-Frith through Hayfield, by Gloſſop

to

to the Wood-head. From Chapel-en-le-Frith to the Wood-head it is completed. The road ſkims along the ſide of the Derbyſhire hills half way betwixt their tops and the Merſey. This road is principally intended for the advantage of thoſe paſſing to and from Buxton into Yorkſhire, inſtead of the wide circuit through Mancheſter. It is already much travelled, and will be ſtill more ſo on its being known. The extenſion of this road from Buxton to Chapel-en-le-Frith is not yet finiſhed. A new turnpike road paſſes from Gloſſop to Mottram, through Hadfield, which by the effects of the cotton trade is much improved of late.

Charleſworth, three miles from Gloſſop, is a long, ſtraggling village of conſiderable extent, much increaſed within theſe few years, principally by the cotton buſineſs. The buildings reach nearly to the top of Charleſworth Neck, one of the higheſt range of hills in this part, extending ſouth-eaſt to a conſiderable diſtance. It is a continued range of rocks of free-ſtone,* at leaſt as far as ſeen in the back ground of the view of Mottram. The clouds in front hide the face of the rocks, or, as it is called, the coombs. Near this is *Chiſworth*, another ſmall village; and not far from hence are collieries, which ſupply many of the villages on the Derbyſhire ſide, though the coal is but indifferent.

Marple Bridge, is a ſmall village equally divided by the Goyt, part being on the Cheſhire, and part on the Derbyſhire ſide of the river, containing about ſixty houſes. The principal employ of the inhabitants is in the cotton manufacture.

* Should a canal-branch from the Peak foreſt up the ſide of the Merſey to Broadbottom-bridge take place, this ſtone will find a ready market in the neighbourhood of Stockport, Mancheſter, &c.

On

On the Derbyſhire ſide, about a mile from the bridge, Mr. Oldknow has erected the largeſt cotton mill in this part of the country on the Goyt, turned by a cut from that river; which of courſe employs the principal part of the young people in this neighbourhood. Mr. Oldknow has alſo built, at his own expence, a very fine bridge over the river Goyt, with free-ſtone got in the quarry at Charleſworth Neck, and faced and finiſhed with a finer ſort from the quarries near Buxton.

Near this place, on the Derbyſhire ſide, is a diſſenting meeting-houſe of modern date, to which belongs a numerous congregation. Here is alſo a very ancient building called *Lower Marple*, and on the Derbyſhire ſide, an ancient family ſeat of the Shuttleworths, pleaſantly ſituated on a riſing ground, now the property of Miſs Shaw.

Mellor has a chapel of the church of England, round which are only ſtraggling houſes.

Hayfield is a long, ſtraggling, and conſiderable village, betwixt Gloſſop and Chapel-en-le-Frith, on the turnpike road. It has a handſome church with a new ſteeple juſt built. The inhabitants are principally clothiers, though the cotton branch of late has gained a ſmall footing. A fine ſtream of water runs through the village. Near this is *Park-hall*, the ſeat of the late Joſeph Hague, Eſq. A magnificent range of ſtabling has lately been added to it.

CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH PARISH.

THE living is a donative curacy, of the clear value of 16*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* It has a handſome church, with a fine organ. The number of families in the

the pariſh is 420, chiefly ſupported by the manufacture of cotton, which has cauſed a great increaſe of population. Chapel-le-Frith is a ſmall market-town. About a mile from it is Bank-hall, the ſeat of Samuel Frith, Eſq. At the diſtance of two miles from the town are ſome works of a military appearance on a mountain called Comb's-moſs, conſiſting of entrenchments on the edge of the hill and carried down the declivity; but no circumſtance has been diſcovered by which the people who formed them could be conjectured. A canal is now cutting from this place to join the canal from Mancheſter to Aſhton-under-Lyne. See p. 132.

The ebbing and flowing well, commonly called *Tideſwell*, and reckoned one of the wonders of the Peak, is two miles from Chapel-le-Frith, cloſe to a turnpike road lately made to Sparrow-pit. It is about a yard deep and broad, and riſes and falls about three quarters of a yard. The water guſhes from ſeveral cavities at once for the ſpace of about five minutes, and then ſubſides again; and this takes place at uncertain intervals, often ſeveral times in a day, or even in an hour, in wet weather, but much more rarely in dry weather.

TIDESWELL PARISH.

THIS is a vicarage of the clear value of £.32, the dean and chapter of Litchfield patrons. The church is very ancient and large, and much admired by the curious. Tideſwell is a ſmall market-town, containing 254 houſes, and about 1000 inhabitants. A few hands in it are employed in ſpinning cotton, but the chief dependence is on the mining buſineſs. The hamlet of *Litton* contains about ſeventy-four

four houſes, and 348 inhabitants. In the village are about fifty-two ſtocking frames, and ten jerſey combers. *Worm-hill* is another hamlet in this pariſh, with a chapel. This place had the honour of giving birth to that extraordinary genius, the late Mr. Mr. Brindley, ſo celebrated for planning navigable canals. Worm-hill contains about twenty-nine houſes. At *Millhouſe Dale* are ten houſes, and a cotton mill which employs many hands from the neighbouring villages. The reſt of the pariſh of Tideſwell contains forty-nine houſes.

Monſal-dale through which the river Wye runs in its courſe between Tideſwell and Bakewell, is one of the moſt pleaſing in Derbyſhire. It is extremely ſteep on one ſide, that on which the road runs, gently aſcending on the other, and ſoftened by a rich covering of wood and herbage. Its prevailing character is tranquil beauty. Towards its head two other beautiful dales open into it; and by following the courſe of the Wye up to Buxton various romantic ſcenes offer themſelves to the eye.

EYAM PARISH.

A RECTORY; lady Burlington, duke of Chandos, and Mr. Bathurſt, patrons. The liberty of Eyam contains about 108 houſes, and 918 inhabitants, who are maintained by agriculture and working the lead mines. In *Foxlow* and *Grindlow* are about ninety-four houſes; in the *Woodlands*, forty; at *Grindleford*, twenty-four. In the two former places the inhabitants depend upon agriculture, cotton ſpinning, and working the lead mines; but population is in a very declining ſtate from a failure in the two laſt branches. When the plague raged in London in 1665, the infection was conveyed in a parcel of clothes

clothes to Eyam, where it broke out in September 1665, and in November 1666, 260 of the inhabitants had died of it. The worthy rector, Mr. Montpeſſon, would not quit his flock. He uſed every argument to perſuade his wife to leave the ſpot, but in vain. She would not forſake her huſband, and is ſuppoſed to have fallen a victim. They ſent away their children. Mr. Montpeſſon continued to employ himſelf in his paſtoral office, and preached in a field under a ſort of alcove formed by nature in a rock, which place ſtill retains the appellation of *the church*. He ſurvived the viſitation, and the entries of deaths from the plague in the pariſh regiſter are in his hand-writing. In the fields ſurrounding the town are many remains denoting where tents were pitched; and tombs ſtill exiſt of large families ſwept away by the peſtilence.* It ought not to be omitted, that Mr. Robert Standley, the deprived miniſter of the place, alſo remained in the village during the whole of this viſitation, and performed every good office in his power to the poor ſufferers.

EDENSOR PARISH.

A VICARAGE; the duke of Devonſhire, patron. In its liberty are about eighty-five houſes; and in the hamlet of *Pilſey* about thirty. Several of the inhabitants meet with employment and ſupport at Chatſworth.

* Howard on Lazarettos, p. 24.

BAKEWELL PARISH.

THIS is reckoned the moſt populous and extenſive pariſh in Derbyſhire. It contains nine chapelries, beſides ſeveral large hamlets. The whole number of houſes is 1040. Bakewell is a vicarage; the dean and chapter of Litchfield patrons. The church is built in the manner of cathedrals, and has a croſs aiſle and a handſome ſpire. It contains ſeveral ancient monuments, the moſt remarkable of which are dedicated to the families of Vernon and Manners. In the churchyard is an antique ſtone croſs, with ſeveral figures of rude ſculpture.

Bakewell is a place of great antiquity, and was made a borough by Edward the elder. It is now a ſmall market town, containing about 192 houſes and 930 inhabitants. A few years ago a machine for cotton ſpinning was erected here by Sir R. Arkwright, which affords employment to about 300 hands. A few are employed in the lead mines, and in collecting the foſſil productions of the Peak. The curious in natural hiſtory will here be much gratified with the complete collection of the foſſils of Derbyſhire, arranged by the ingenious Mr. White Watſon of this town, who by a tablet of his invention has exhibited a view of the ſtrata of the Peak, with the relative poſition and proportion of the minerals with which it abounds.

Haddon-hall ſtands on a gentle eminence amid thick woods overhanging the Wye, two miles below Bakewell. It is an ancient manſion belonging to the duke of Rutland. It conſiſts of two quadrangular courts, round which the apartments and offices are built; and it is embattled and caſtellated on every ſide, ſo as to afford a perfect ſpecimen of the reſidence of an Engliſh baron in the 15th century. It is now entirely

entirely disfurniſhed, though ſeveral of the rooms are ſtill hung with old tapeſtry. This place was long the ſeat of the Vernons, a family of diſtinction during ſeveral reigns. After the death of Sir George Vernon, in the reign of Elizabeth, who left two daughters, it came, along with ſeveral Derbyſhire manors, by marriage into the family of Manners, which continued to reſide there during more than a century, but finally quitted it for Belvoir caſtle. It was formerly ſurrounded by a park, which is now thrown into encloſures of paſture ground.

Aſhford, a chapelry in the pariſh of Bakewell, has a village of the name ſituated on the Wye. The whole liberty contains about 119 houſes and 540 inhabitants. A few perſons here are employed in cotton ſpinning, and about twenty hands in the manufacture of ſtockings. About fifty years ago a machine was conſtructed here by a Mr. Watſon, for ſawing and poliſhing the marble which is found in great abundance at this village and in the neighbouring country. The ſcheme did not at firſt anſwer to its author; but the preſent proprietors have made a beneficial concern of it, and carry on buſineſs to a conſiderable extent. The marble manufactured here is not only much in requeſt in this kingdom, but is exported to diſtant parts.

The chapelry of *Baſlow* contains ſeveral hamlets. The houſes in all are about 202. A large cotton mill in the centre of them gives employment to a number of people of the vicinity.

In *Great Longſtone* the manufacture of muſlins has been introduced. *Little Longſtone*, *Sheldon*, and *Taddington* are other villages in this diſtrict, ſituated in a part of the Peak little cultivated or incloſed. The inhabitants chiefly depend for their ſupport on working in the lead mines.

mines. The ſame may be ſaid of *Moneyaſh*. The houſes in all theſe places are about 247.

Chelmorton chapelry.—This village ſtands at the foot of a high eminence, and contains about forty houſes. Its inhabitants are partly employed in the lead mines, partly in a manufacture of ribands lately introduced. A barrow or low in the neighbourhood was opened ſome years ago containing ſome human ſkeletons entire.

Buxton chapelry.—The part of this town within Bakewell pariſh contains about ſeventy-ſeven houſes, and 238 ſtated inhabitants, the number being much increaſed in the bathing ſeaſon.

This place, ſituated in a hollow, among naked and dreary hills, has been favoured by nature with the poſſeſſion of one of the moſt valuable mineral waters in this kingdom, which has rendered it the reſort of multitudes of invalids of all ranks, and has decorated it with ſplendid and commodious buildings. The following account of its waters and baths has been drawn from the beſt authorities.

Buxton waters and baths.—There is little doubt that the warm baths of Buxton were known to the Romans, various remains of Roman workmanſhip having been diſcovered about them. Their celebrity in the later ages is little known, our writers making little mention of them till the 16th century. Buxton was much frequented in the reign of Elizabeth, and ſince that period, the number of perſons reſorting to it, and the buildings erected for their accommodation, have been continually increaſing. On a chemical analyſis, the waters have been found to be lightly impregnated with mineral matter, particularly calcareous earth, ſea-ſalt,

ſea-ſalt, ſelenite, and acidulous gas, with perhaps ſome other permanently elaſtic vapour. The baths are three in number, and their degree of heat from eighty-one to eighty-two. The water is clear, ſparkling, and grateful to the palate. When drank in conſiderable quantity, it proves, for the moſt part, heating and binding. The temperature of the baths is extremely agreeable to the feeling. A ſlight ſhock is felt at the firſt immerſion, which is ſucceeded by a pleaſant warmth. The caſe in which bathing is attended with the moſt diſtinguiſhed good effects, is chronic rheumatiſm, many perſons every year abſolutely crippled by this diſorder being reſtored to the uſe of their limbs. The water is found beneficial in gouty, nephritic, and bilious diſorders, and in moſt debilities of the ſtomach and bowels. In theſe, as uſual in the adminiſtration of mineral waters, much of the benefit muſt be imputed to the air, exerciſe, and change of living.

Buxton water iſſues to the day through the fiſſures of a rock of blackiſh marble. Some of theſe openings are large, and ſome apparent only from the circumſtance of the water running through them, attended with large air bubbles. The ſprings are many, and the water pouring from them ſo copious, that they have enabled the proprietor to make a number of uſeful and ſubſtantial improvements.

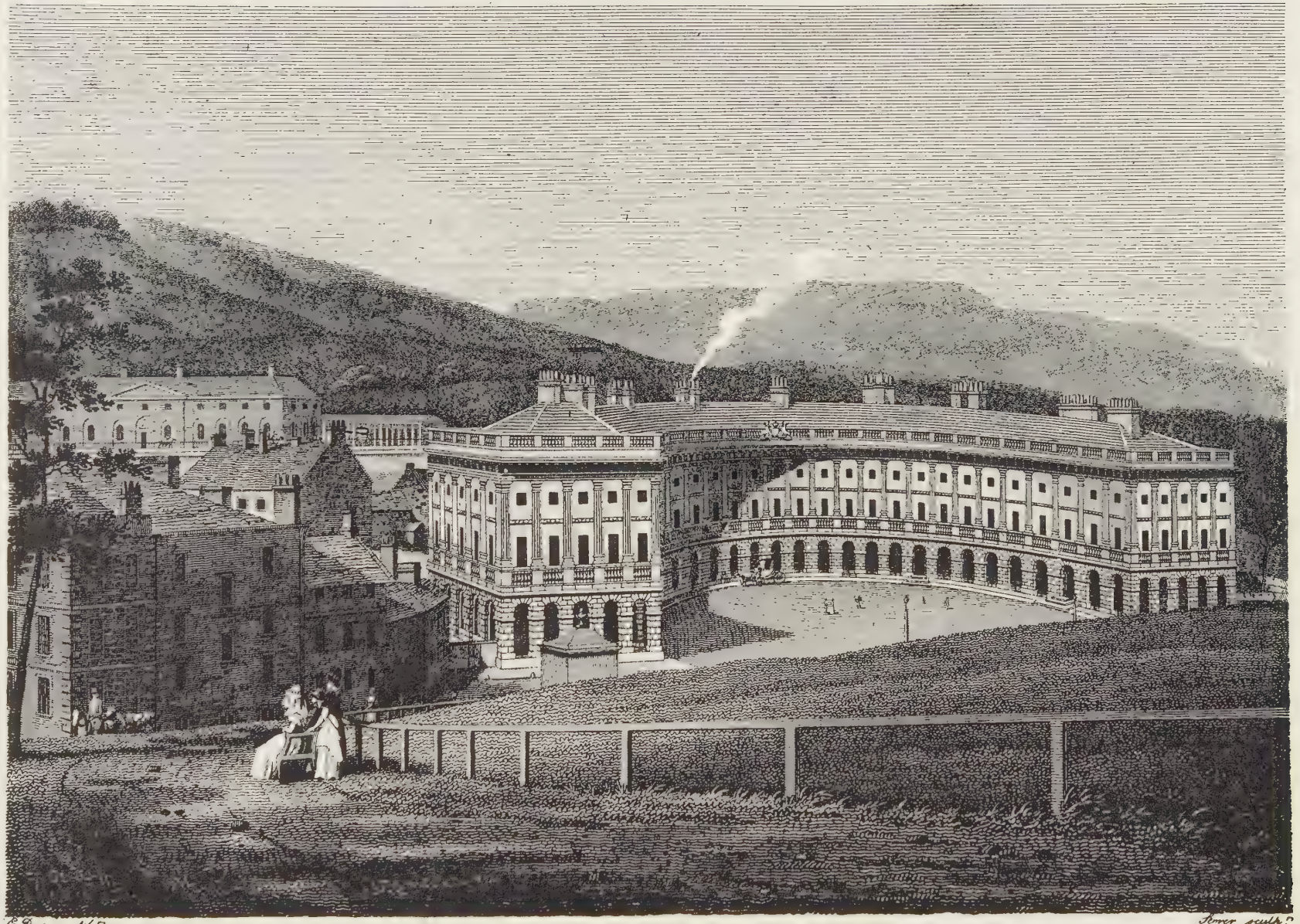
The place where the water is uſually drunk, and which is yet called St. Anne's well, is a very elegant building, in the Grecian ſtile, and is certainly a great improvement, both with reſpect to its conveyance from the original ſpring, and from the mode of delivering it to the company. Before the late alterations, the water roſe into a ſtone baſon, which, as has been before obſerved, was incloſed in a wall of brick. This wall remained to the time of Sir Thomas Delves, who built the late hand-

handſome arch over the wall, which was about twelve feet ſquare, and ſet round with ſtone benches. The baſon was about twenty-five yards north of the outermoſt bath. This was ſuppoſed always to have been the original ſpring; but there is not a ſhadow of doubt that the water was conducted into the baſon in a rude and ſlovenly manner, and from a very conſiderable diſtance. It muſt, indeed, be allowed, that the water is now conveyed from a ſomewhat greater diſtance into the preſent baſon, which is of white marble. But as it runs through a narrow, neat channel of grit-ſtone, by which it is covered to the very edge of the baſon, it is equally beneficial, and at the ſame time free from many impurities ariſing from ſoughs and drains to which the other was frequently and unavoidably expoſed. The temperature of this water, which does not in any degree depend on rain, or other accidental circumſtance, is always eighty-one by Fahrenheit's thermometer.

There is another fountain, called from its ſituation the Hall well. This is incloſed in a neat room opening into the corridore, which leads from the hall to the creſcent, and is particularly convenient in bad weather. But, as it lies at a ſtill greater diſtance from the ſpring, its temperature is one degree below the former. In other reſpects its qualities are the ſame.

An exhalation, or ſteam, often hovers over St. Ann's well early in the morning, and late at night; and ſometimes, when the atmoſphere is very moiſt and cold, it continues for the whole day. This laſt appearance is eſteemed almoſt a certain ſign of rain. There is no ſediment of any kind whatſoever in the well.

Dr.



VIEW OF BUXTON.

Publish'd July 22. 1794. by I. Stockdale. Piccadilly

Dr. Denman, from whoſe "Obſervations on Buxton Water," lately publiſhed, the preceding account of the ſprings is copied, has given many judicious directions for their internal and external uſe, formed upon long practice on the ſpot. He in general conſiders Buxton water as a more active remedy than is uſually ſuppoſed, and not only diſſuades from its uſe in all inflammatory and feveriſh complaints, but limits the quantity to be taken, in caſes where it is proper, to a moderate portion. "In common," he ſays, "two glaſſes, each of "the ſize of a third part of a pint, are as much as ought to be drank "before breakfaſt, at the diſtance of forty minutes between each; and "one or two of the ſame glaſſes between breakfaſt and dinner will be "quite ſufficient."—With reſpect to bathing, he recommends, for invalids, the time between breakfaſt and dinner as the moſt proper, and directs that the preſcribed or uſual exerciſe ſhould be taken before the bath. The water ſhould never be drunk immediately before bathing.

There is likewiſe a chalybeate ſpring at Buxton, in which the water is pretty ſtrongly impregnated with iron held in ſolution by acidulous gas; and alſo an artificial bath of the Buxton waters, in which they are warmed by a ſtove.

The buildings for the accommodation of company at Buxton were, till of late years, only the *Old-hall*, a ſpacious houſe at the bottom of the hill, and a few inns and ſmall lodging-houſes in the towns. From the increaſing conflux of people, however, new buildings were added yearly; and at length the duke of Devonſhire erected the large and beautiful edifice called the *Creſcent*, of which a view is here given, which will convey a better idea of it than can be communicated by words. It is built of ſtone got on the ſpot, and faced with a fine free-

ſtone

ſtone, from a quarry a mile and a half from Buxton on the Diſley road, and conſiſts of numerous private apartments, ſupplied with every convenience, with a grand ball-room on the right, and a coffee-room under it. In the centre of the building is the duke's arms cut in ſtone, and furniſhed with a capital pair of *real* ſtag's horns, which were once brought down by order of the architect for the purpoſe of ſilencing a ſtranger, who, after ſeverely criticiſing the ſeveral parts of the edifice, finiſhed with obſerving that the horns were peculiarly ill executed. At the back of the Creſcent are ſeen the ſtables, compoſing a grand ſquare, and equal in magnificence and contrivance to any thing in the kingdom. A large range of ſheds for carriages is annexed to them. To the front of the Creſcent is a fine riſing ground, laid down with graſs, and planted with trees, round which are led agreeable walks. The whole deſign of theſe buildings is ſaid to have coſt the duke upwards of £.120,000. They are leaſed to a perſon who undertakes the management of them; and the reſort of company has been ſuch, as to fill them to overflowing. In the front of the Creſcent, to the left, is a building where the waters may be drunk gratis. More to the left are the baths adjoining the Old-hall. See the view.

The roads about Buxton are excellent, being made with lime-ſtone, which forms a ſmooth, even ſurface. A new road round one of the hills at Buxton was cut in 1794.

One mile from Buxton on the road to Tideſwell is *Fairfield*, a ſmall, ſtraggling village, with a tolerable church. From this place to Chapel-le-Frith, a new turnpike road will ſoon run in nearly a ſtraight line, to join that from the latter town to the Wood-head. This will be three miles nearer, and alſo more on the level; and will be of great advantage

tage to thoſe who have occaſion to go to Huddersfield or Leeds without paſſing through Sheffield to the eaſt, or Mancheſter to the weſt.

The country round Buxton is celebrated for lime of a very ſtrong quality, the kilns for burning which form a principal object in the ſcenery of the ſurrounding hills. It is ſent chiefly on the backs of ſmall horſes to conſiderable diſtances in the adjacent counties.

Beeley chapelry. The village ſtands in a valley near the Derwent. It has about fifty-four houſes, and its inhabitants are chiefly ſupported by agriculture.

In the ſmall hamlet of *Haſſop* is the handſome ſeat of Francis Eyre, Eſq. whoſe family is very ancient and reſpectable in this county. The preſent poſſeſſor has a very large collection of exotic plants in his greenhouſes; and has continued the extenſive plantations begun by his father.

There are various other hamlets in the pariſh not worth particular notice. One of the moſt diſtinguiſhed places in it is

Chatſworth-houſe, the ſeat of the duke of Devonſhire. This is a magnificent building, ſituated in a wide and deep valley, near the foot of a high hill, finely cloathed with wood. The gardens are diſtinguiſhed by their water works, which, from the advantage of their ſituation, are rendered ſuperior in their kind to any others in the kingdom, and were the objects of much admiration when thoſe contrivances of art were in eſteem. This houſe has been about two centuries the manſion of the anceſtors of the Cavendiſh family. The preſent edifice

was

was erected by the laſt earl of Devonſhire, a few years before the revolution. The moſt remarkable thing in the inſide is an elegant chapel with a good deal of the exquiſite carving of Gibbon. Some modern improvements have been made in the grounds, and a noble range of ſtabling was built about 1760. The annexed view of Chatſworth was taken in 1793 from the weſt ſide of the Derwent, in the park.

YOULGRAVE PARISH.

ITS living is a rectory; the duke of Devonſhire patron. The town of Youlgrave contains 136 houſes, and 614 inhabitants. Agriculture and mining are the principal employments of the place.

Winſter is a market town containing 218 houſes. The inhabitants chiefly depend upon the lead mines for ſupport. Theſe having been for ſome time in a declining ſtate, the poor have employed themſelves in picking and cleaning cotton for Sir R. Arkwright's works.

Elton, *Birchover*, and *Stanton*, are hamlets in this pariſh, containing together about 216 houſes. In the neighbourhood of Birchover is a rocking-ſtone of large dimenſions. There are various works of rude antiquity in theſe parts.

In a part of this pariſh within the wapentake of Wirkſworth is the village of *Middleton*, near which is one of the moſt ſtriking monuments of antiquity in Derbyſhire, known by the name of Arbelows, or Arborlow. It conſiſts of an area, encompaſſed by a broad ditch of a circular or rather of an elliptical form, leaving entrances to the north and ſouth,

and



VIEW OF CHATSWORTH.

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and bounded externally by a mound. The area within is forty-ſix yards from eaſt to weſt, and fifty-two from north to ſouth. Round its border are thirty oblong ſtones intermixed with fourteen ſmaller ones, pointing to the centre, where are three others. This was probably a Druidical temple or place of worſhip.

DARLEY PARISH.

THE living is a rectory; patron, the dean of Lincoln. The whole pariſh contains 381 houſes, contained in ſeveral villages. In all of them, agriculture and the mining buſineſs are the chief ſupports of the inhabitants.

Darley church lies on the eaſt ſide of the river Derwent, cloſe to it, in the dale leading from Matlock to Bakewell, which is one of the moſt beautiful rides in the kingdom. The church is ancient, and in the church-yard is one of the oldeſt and largeſt yew trees in the kingdom. No traveller can paſs without noticing its appearance, which gives ſolemnity to the lonely church-yard; there is no building but the parſonage houſe near it, which probably is as ancient as the church. Adjoining it are pleaſant grounds and gardens, much improved and beautified by the preſent reſpectable incumbent, the Rev. Mr. Wray, who has had the pleaſure to ſee trees planted with his own hands towering as high as the ſteeple of the church, and ſhading a conſiderable ſpace of ground. He remembers in his early youth the branches of the yew tree extending to a length and covering a ſpace of ground that would appear almoſt incredible. Some of its noble branches have been broken off of late years.

Sni-

Snitterton-hall in this pariſh is a good manor-houſe, built about the reign of James I. It ſucceſſively belonged to the Sacheverels and Milwards, and was, about the year 1680, conveyed to Henry Ferne, Eſq. receiver-general of the cuſtoms, whoſe daughter and co-heir Elizabeth carried it to Edmund Turnor, Eſq. of Lincolnſhire.

HATHERSAGE PARISH.

A VICARAGE, value £.35; patron, the duke of Devonſhire. The number of houſes in this liberty is about ninety; in the outſets twenty-ſeven, and in Bamforth twenty-five. At Hatherſage is a ſmall manufacture of metal buttons. At Bamforth a cotton mill has been worked ſeveral years back.

Stoney Middleton contains about 104 houſes, and 468 inhabitants. Several perſons in it are employed in the burning of lime-ſtone; but working in the lead mines is the chief buſineſs of the place. The dale which takes its name from this hamlet is one of the curioſities of the county. It is a narrow, deep, and winding ravine, not ſo much diſtinguiſhed for grandeur or beauty, as for the peculiarity of the ſhape of its rocks. On the north ſide they bear a ſtrong reſemblance to the round towers and buttreſſes of an old caſtle; and in ſome parts there is ſuch a diſtinct appearance of mouldings, that one can ſcarcely help thinking the chiſſel has been employed on them. The rocks, eſpecially on this ſide, are perpendicular, and riſe to the height of 3 or 400 feet, but they are every where naked, except at a point near the entrance of Eyam dale. Here Mr. Longſdon has raiſed a beautiful plantation, with a grotto in the midſt of it, furniſhed with the moſt elegant foſſils of the country. The road

road through the dale is ſo narrow, and its turns ſo acute, that you continually think your way ſtopped up by the rocky projections.

At Stoney Middleton is a bath, called *St. Martin's*, encloſed with walls, but open at top; the water of which, in its chemical properties, reſembles that of Matlock. Its heat is ſixty-three degrees of Fahrenheit. It is little uſed except by the poor of the neighbourhood. There are alſo three warm petrifying ſprings on the weſt ſide of the churchyard, and a chalybeate ſpring.

Peak-foreſt is a chapelry containing about ninety-five houſes. Its inhabitants are employed in the cotton manufacture, in the burning of lime, and in the mines.

HOPE PARISH.

A VICARAGE; the Dean and Chapter of Litchfield patrons. The village is ſmall; a few hands in it are employed in ſpinning hemp and weaving ſacking.

Bradwell, a large village in the pariſh, but declining in population, is chiefly ſupported by the mining buſineſs; a few perſons are employed in the linen and cotton manufactures. There are various little hamlets in this pariſh, the inhabitants of which are chiefly employed in the mining buſineſs. The chapelry of *Fairfield* alſo belongs to it, though ſituated near Buxton. The whole number of houſes in Hope pariſh is about 611, but ſome are uninhabited. *Brough* near Hope affords various proofs of having been a Roman ſtation.

CAS-

CASTLETON PARISH.

A VICARAGE; the Biſhop of Cheſter impropriator and patron. The town of Caſtleton probably derived its name from the caſtle, which is ſtill extant in a ruined ſtate. It ſtands on a high point of ground, one ſide being on the edge of a perpendicular precipice above the cavern named Peak's-hole. It is thought to be one of the moſt ancient forteſſes in the kingdom, and part of it, at leaſt, to have exiſted in the Saxon heptarchy. The town of Caſtleton was alſo once fortified, and the veſtiges of a foſſe and rampart are ſtill to be ſeen. The number of houſes in its liberty is about 182. The inhabitants are chiefly ſupported by the lead mines. The cotton-ſpinning in this, as in other places, has declined ſince the erection of Sir R. Arkwright's mills, and with it their population has diminiſhed. On the noted mountain *Mam Tor* near Caſtleton are evident marks of an encampment, ſuppoſed by ſome to have been been a Roman work. The vulgar ſtory, that this mountain is perpetually crumbling without being diminiſhed, is evidently falſe, its diminution being very viſible. Of *Peak's-hole*, or *Caſtleton Cavern*, we have given a particular deſcription at p. 73. The annexed view, taken in 1793, exhibits the entrance to the cavern, and the ruins of the caſtle above.

The valley in which Caſtleton is ſituated is perhaps the moſt ſtriking in the high Peak. It is at leaſt 800 feet deep, and in many parts nearly two miles wide, and extends eaſtward to the diſtance of five or ſix miles. A number of leſſer dales at various diſtances are ſeen opening into it. The ſteep ſides of the valley are beautified by well-cultivated encloſures riſing above one another to its very edge. To the north the country boldly ſwells into hills, terminating in two high points. Weſtward

C. Pugin del.

Newman sculp.

VIEW OF CASTLETON.

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ward it does not extend beyond the town of Caſtleton, but it there forms a noble ampitheatre: the back of which riſes in many parts to the height of 1000 feet, and the front meaſures nearly two miles over. The town of Caſtleton, its ruined caſtle frowning over the precipice, and Mam Tor raiſing its head beyond, are grand and ſtriking objects. This valley communicates with that through which the Derwent holds its courſe to Derby, a tract well worth purſuing from the romantic variety and beauty of the ſcenes it ſucceſſively preſents.

Edale chapelry contains about ſixty-ſix houſes. There are ſome remains of antiquity near this village, imagined to be Druidical.

Wirksworth Wapentake.

HARTINGTON PARISH.

A VICARAGE; patron, the Duke of Devonſhire. This pariſh extends along the weſtern boundary of the county about twelve miles, comprehending all the tract of land between the manors of Buxton and Thorpe. It is divided into the Hartington town quarter, and the lower, middle, and upper quarters. The town quarter contains ſixty-three houſes, and 363 inhabitants. In the village of Hartington about ſixty hands are employed in the cotton, thread, linen, and check manufactures. There are traditions of battles fought near it, and a large barrow is to be ſeen on a high eminence not far from it, called Wolfs-cote hill. The lower quarter contains fifty-ſix houſes and 281 inhabitants; the middle quarter, ſeventy houſes and 338 inhabitants; and the upper quarter, 130 houſes, ſome of them adjoining to the town of Buxton. In the north part of this diviſion a great quantity

quantity of lime is burnt every ſummer. There are eight kilns, each of which employs five hands, and burns about 120 horſe loads daily. Upon Hartington common, which extends ten miles in the direction of north and ſouth, are many barrows, generally ſituated upon the higheſt points of ground.

BRADBOURN PARISH.

A VICARAGE; patron, the Duke of Devonſhire. The village contains thirty-two houſes. *Braſſington*, a large chapelry in the pariſh, contains 130 houſes, and 482 inhabitants. Near it is a remarkable low or barrow, having a number of vaults carried round its circumference, ſeveral of them now expoſed to ſight. Other hamlets in this pariſh contain about fifty-ſix houſes; the inhabitants are employed in mining.

ASHBOURN PARISH.

A VICARAGE; patron, the dean of Lincoln. Aſhbourn is a market town, ſituated on the great north road. The view of this town from the top of the hill on approaching it from London, is particularly delightful. It lies in a deep rich valley, with beautiful high grounds at the back, as well as on the front. The deſcent to it by the turnpike road is one of the fineſt walks in England, being fenced on the inner ſteep ſide with a handſome railing, and having a thorn hedge on the outer ſide. The church of Aſhbourn is a noble ancient building, with a fine ſpire. There is a good free-ſchool in the town, founded by citizens of London, natives of the place and its vicinity. The markets of Aſhbourn, which

which are on Saturday, ſupply an extenſive neighbourhood. It has alſo a conſiderable ſupport from its cattle fairs, which are held frequently, eſpecially in ſpring and autumn. The trout caught in its river, the Dove, afford a delicious treat, of which moſt travellers chuſe to partake. In the liberty of Aſhbourn are about 480 houſes. The manor of Aſhbourn, long in the family of Cockayne, whoſe principal ſeat for many generations was at this place, paſſed from them into the Boothby family. Sir Brooke Boothby, the preſent lord, reſides at Aſhbourn-hall, a delightful ſituation. The pariſh of Aſhbourn extends partly in this wapentake, and partly in the hundred of Appletree. In the latter are the hamlets of *Clifton*, *Offcote*, *Underwood*, *Yelderſley*, and *Hulland*, together containing 103 houſes. In the wapentake are *Mappleton*, a rectory containing thirty-two houſes; *Alſop*, a chapelry, and *Parwich*, a chapelry, both at a conſiderable diſtance northwards, containing 102 houſes; the inhabitants employed in farming. Near the latter village are veſtiges of a Roman ſtation, at which a number of coins have been diſcovered.

About three miles from Aſhbourn is *Dove-dale*, one of the moſt ſingular and romantic ſcenes in Derbyſhire. The river Dove here runs in a deep narrow valley, which leaves only a foot path on its banks. Its ſides are almoſt in every part ſteep and craggy. After having entered it, which is done by a tolerably good deſcent near Thorpe, you find yourſelf encloſed between craggy rocks piled above one another to a vaſt height on the right, and a ſteep aſcent cloathed with wood and herbage on the left. On proceeding, the rocks aſſume the moſt extraordinary ſhape: in ſome places they riſe to the height of thirty or forty yards in the form of ſpires and pyramids, entirely detached from the ſide of the vale; in others, they lean over the river, and ſeem to menace deſtruction to the paſſenger. About a mile up the dale a fine natural arch is

ſeen,

ſeen, about forty feet high and eighteen wide, in a chain of rocks which extends along the edge of a high precipice, but ſo detached from it as to have the appearance of a maſſy wall built by human hands. The rocks on the oppoſite ſide are covered with hanging woods, from the midſt of which riſes a ſolitary pointed rock, ſublime in its appearance, and uſually called by way of eminence, Dove-dale-church. In the opinion of the ingenious Mr. Gilpin, Dove-dale is one of the moſt pleaſing pieces of ſcenery of the kind any where to be met with. Its perpendicular detached rocks ſtamp it with a character entirely its own. It may be added, that it is a favourite ſpot to the botaniſts, a great variety of plants, ſome of them rare, being found in its rocks and woods.

From Aſhbourn are two diſtinct roads to Mancheſter: one through Leek and Macclesfield, the other through Buxton. The firſt is the neareſt and much leſs hilly, and in general a good road. The latter through Buxton, to Diſley and Bullock-Smithy, where the roads join, is nearly a perpetual aſcent and deſcent of hills, frequently of conſiderable length, as much as a mile each way. This road is equally good, if not better than the Leek and Macclesfield road, being principally made with lime-ſtone. Until this year (1795) the ſtage for poſt-horſes from Aſhbourn to Buxton was twenty-one miles, perhaps the heavieſt in the kingdom, and extremely deſtructive to horſes. The duke of Devonſhire's humanity has induced him, as well for the accommodation of the public, as the eaſe of the animals, to eſtabliſh at Newhaven a capital inn with poſt-horſes, to divide this unreaſonable ſtage. It was formerly a ſmall public houſe where the horſes were baited for a few minutes.

The



E. Dayes del.r

Sparrow sculp.t

VIEW OF ASHBORNE.

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The annexed view of Aſhbourn was taken from the bend of the hill leading from London to Aſhbourn, near to the town. On the right is the ſeat of Sir Brooke Boothby, Bart.; in the centre, the town, with the Derbyſhire hills behind; on the left, the church, with the Staffordſhire hills in the back ground.

FENNY-BENTLY PARISH.

A RECTORY; dean of Lincoln patron. It contains twenty-ſix houſes, and 130 inhabitants. The family of Beresford was ſeated here towards the end of the fifteenth century, and there are ſeveral monuments of them in the church.

THORP PARISH.

A RECTORY; dean of Lincoln patron. It contains twenty-eight houſes. Its inhabitants are ſupported by the farming buſineſs.

TISSINGTON PARISH.

A CURACY; Sir W. Fitzherbert patron. Its liberty contains forty-four houſes and 192 inhabitants. At this place is the ſeat of the Fitzherberts (now Lords St. Helen), who have reſided here ſince the reign of Henry V.

HOGNASTON PARISH.

A RECTORY; the King patron. It contains about fifty-two houſes, the inhabitants ſupported by agriculture.

KIRK-IRETON PARISH.

A RECTORY; the dean of Lincoln patron. It contains 120 houſes.

CARSINGTON PARISH.

A RECTORY; the dean of Lincoln patron. It contains forty-ſix houſes; the people ſupported by agriculture and mining.

WIRKSWORTH PARISH.

DEAN and chapter of Lincoln patrons of the living. The town lies in a bottom, eternally enveloped in ſmoke from the neighbouring lead and calamine works. It has a handſome church, a free-ſchool, and an alms-houſe. There is a town hall for holding the manor-court; and in this town are held the Barmote courts for the wapentake. Wirkſworth has ſcarcely any ſupply of common water, but has a ſtrong medicinal water of the ſulphureous kind. The number of houſes in Wirkſworth is 486; in the whole townſhip 648. This place has been ſupported by the lead mines from before the Norman conqueſt. At preſent, ſeveral hands are alſo employed in the ſpinning of jerſey and

and cotton. A cotton mill erected by Sir R. Arkwright employs nearly 200 perſons.

Alderwaſhley is a chapelry in this pariſh. It contains fifty-ſeven houſes; its inhabitants are principally employed in farming. Near it is the ſeat of Francis Hurt, Eſq. formerly belonging to the family of Pole.

Cromford is a hamlet containing about 120 houſes. Population has of late years rapidly increaſed here, on account of the great cotton machines erected by Sir R. Arkwright, which employ about 800 hands. This was the firſt place in Derbyſhire in which that moſt ingenious mechanic eſtabliſhed his works, the various contrivances of which have contributed to the improvement and extenſion of the cotton manufactures. All operations are performed here upon the cotton, from the raw ſtate in which it is imported, to ſpinning it to the fineſt thread; and theſe in a manner much ſuperior to that by former methods, as well as at a much cheaper rate.* Sir Richard's reſidence was at Cromford.

His

* Dr. Darwin's poetical deſcription of theſe works will, we doubt not, gratify many of our readers.

So now, where Derwent guides his duſky floods
Through vaulted mountains and a night of woods,
The nymph, Goſſypia, treads the velvet ſod,
And warms with roſy ſmiles the wat'ry god;
His ponderous oars to ſlender ſpindles turns,
And pours o'er maſſy wheels his foaming urns;
With playful charms her hoary lover wins,
And wheels his trident,—while the Monarch ſpins.
—Firſt with nice eye emerging Naïads cull
From leathery pods the vegetable wool;
With wiry teeth *revolving cards* releaſe
The tangl'd knots, and ſmooth the ravell'd fleece;

Next

His ſon has built a very elegant ſeat on a riſing ground eaſt of the Derwent, commanding a view of his works, and the neighbouring country. This place has lately received great benefit, in a canal carried from it to join the Errewaſh navigation at Langley-bridge. See p. 133.

There are other hamlets in this pariſh, and among them, *Hopton*, the ſeat of Philip Gell, Eſq. whoſe family have reſided there ſince the time of queen Elizabeth.

BONSALL PARISH.

A RECTORY; dean of Lincoln patron. It contains about 240 houſes. Its inhabitants are employed in the mines, and at the works at Cromford. Here is a free-ſchool, built and endowed by Robert Ferne of this place, anceſtor of the Fernes, of Snitterton.

MATLOCK PARISH.

A RECTORY; dean of Lincoln patron. The pariſh contains 373 houſes. The inhabitants are conſiderably employed in the lead

> Next moves the *iron-hand* with fingers fine,
> Combs the wide card, and forms th' eternal line;
> Slow, with ſoft lips, the *whirling can* acquires
> The tender ſkeins, and wraps in riſing ſpires;
> With quicken'd pace *ſucceſſive rollers* move,
> And theſe retain, and theſe extend the *rove*.
> Then fly the ſpoles, the rapid axles glow;—
> While ſlowly circumvolves the labouring wheel below.
>
> *Botan. Gard.* V. ii. p. 56.

mines,

mines, and lately ſeveral hands have been occupied in manufacturing ſtockings and in cotton works. There are twenty ſtocking frames in the pariſh. Two cotton mills have been erected; one in Matlock-dale, a large building belonging to the late Sir R. Arkwright.

The romantic beauties for which Matlock is ſo much diſtinguiſhed, conſiſt in a dale through which the Derwent flows, between vaſt ledges of rocks, ſome bare, and forming a perpendicular wall of two or three hundred feet in height, others adorned with a variety of trees and ſhrubs, thus yielding a combination of the rudely magnificent, with the ſoft and beautiful features of ſuch ſcenery. The river itſelf is a great addition to the charms of the place, now flowing with a rapid and broken current, now gliding with a deep and gentle ſtream, the ſmooth ſurface of which reflects the rocks and over-hanging boughs on its margin. The moſt ſublime object here is called the High Tor, which is a ſtupendous rock riſing almoſt perpendicularly from the river to the height of 300 feet, and projecting its broad front into the valley.

Matlock water and bath.—The warm ſprings of Matlock were firſt noticed about the year 1698. They have gradually riſen to the reputation they now enjoy, part of which has certainly been owing to the romantic beauties of the place, and the increaſed taſte for travelling. Matlock water is grateful to the palate, but without any ſenſible appearance of a mineral ſpirit or impregnation. Its contents on analyſis afford nothing remarkable, being chiefly calcareous earth. Its temperature is ſixty-ſix degrees at the ſpring, and ſixty-eight in the bath; as a bath, therefore, it is rather to be reckoned among the cold than hot. The effects of the water taken internally are ſuppoſed to be ſimilar to thoſe of Briſtol;

Briſtol; they are accordingly uſed in hectic caſes, ſpitting of blood, diabetes, and other diſeaſes with a quickened circulation. The climate, however, is far from being as ſuitable as that of Briſtol to conſumptive patients. There are two baths at Matlock, the old and the new, and houſes for the entertainment of company at each; of which the old is the largeſt and moſt frequented; the new the moſt pleaſantly ſituated.

There are two chalybeate ſprings near the bridge at Matlock.

The annexed view of Matlock was taken from Maſon's Inn (the Miner's Arms.) On the right are the rocks peeping through the tops of the woods; and on the left, the Zig-Zag walk.

Scarsdale Hundred (Part.)

ASHOVER PARISH.

A RECTORY; John Simpſon, Eſq. patron. In the church is a very ancient font, ſuppoſed by ſome to be Saxon. It ſtands upon a ſtone pedeſtal; and around are twenty figures in attitudes of devotion, caſt in lead. There are ſeveral monuments in the church, chiefly of the Babington family. The number of houſes in the liberty is 321. The inhabitants are ſupported by the mining buſineſs, and the manufacture of ſtockings. *Dethick* in this pariſh was long the ſeat of the Babingtons. Anthony, the principal in a conſpiracy againſt queen Elizabeth, reſided



VIEW OF MATLOCK.

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reſided here. At *Lea*, another hamlet, is the ſeat of Peter Nightingale, Eſq. A cotton mill has been erected here, and there is a ſmall manufacture of muſlins.

Overton-hall in this pariſh is a good manſion houſe, belonging to Sir Joſeph Bankes, Bart. whoſe family became poſſeſſed of it by marriage with the heireſs of Hodgkinſon.

WINGERWORTH. A curacy; the dean of Lincoln patron. The houſes in the liberty are about ſixty-one. A furnace for ſmelting iron ore furniſhes employment to a number of perſons. *Wingerworth-hall*, the ſeat of Sir H. Hunloke, is a large ancient houſe, on an elevated ſituation, commanding extenſive proſpects. The family of Hunloke has been ſettled here from the time of Henry VIII.

CHESTERFIELD PARISH.

A VICARAGE; dean of Lincoln patron. Cheſterfield became a borough town in the reign of king John. The corporation conſiſts of a mayor, ſix aldermen, and twenty-four common-council men. The duke of Portland is lord of the manor. Its church is very ancient. The ſpire, which riſes to the height of 230 feet, appears to lean to each ſide on which it is approached. The Preſbyterians, Independents, and Quakers have each a place of worſhip in Cheſterfield. There are alſo a free-grammar ſchool, a town-hall, a jail for debtors, five hoſpitals, ſix alms-houſes for widows, a workhouſe, and houſe of correction. From an enumeration made in December 1788, the town was found to contain 801 houſes, and 3626 inhabitants. The following extract

extract from its annual bills of mortality will give a view of its progreſſive increaſe.

Year.	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Year.	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.
1700	43	79	85	1760	37	129	153
1710	19	83	78	1770	40	119	117
1720	35	91	83	1780	43	165	103
1730	51	104	107	1790	46	181	172
1740	31	93	70	1791	46	202	102
1750	41	88	91	1792	71	208	177

Cheſterfield flouriſhes in various branches of trade. The iron-works ſituated in the town and neighbourhood afford conſiderable employment. At *Walton* there are a furnace and foundry, which employ about 100 hands. At theſe works are manufactured cannon and ball, engine cylinders, ſtoves, grates, ovens, and a variety of other goods. At *Newbold* is a furnace chiefly uſed for ſmelting, which employs about forty-ſeven hands. In the town is a ſmaller foundry, at which utenſils of various ſorts are caſt. The manufacture of ſtockings is another branch of its buſineſs. The frames in the town and neighbourhood are about 260. A manufacture of carpets employs eighty-four hands. A conſiderable number of ſhoes are made here for the London market. Three potteries near the town make a large quantity of coarſe earthen ware. A cotton mill and hat manufactory have been lately eſtabliſhed at Brampton moor.

The canal from Cheſterfield to the Trent is a great advantage to its commerce, and is likely at laſt to become a profitable concern to the undertakers. We have already given a particular account of it in p. 116.

Several

Several chapelries and hamlets in this pariſh contain together about 460 houſes. *Walton* was during many generations the ſeat of the ancient family of Foljambe.

BRAMPTON PARISH.

A CURACY; dean of Lincoln patron. The church contains ſeveral ancient monuments, chiefly relating to the family of Clarke of Somerſall. The pariſh is very extenſive, and contains 325 houſes. In that part of it which lies near Cheſterfield there has been a conſiderable increaſe in population owing to the iron works. This part of the county is ſaid to be remarkably healthy, and the grave-ſtones in the church-yard afford many inſtances of great longevity.

DRONFIELD PARISH.

A VICARAGE; the king patron. It is a ſmall market town. In 1783 the houſes in Dronfield were numbered, and amounted to 171, which, with the remainder contained in ſeveral hamlets, make up 447 in the whole pariſh. The inhabitants are principally ſupported by agriculture. There is here an excellent free-ſchool, with a noble endowment by Henry Fanſhawe, Eſq. in the time of Henry VIII. From the Fanſhawes, of Fanſhawe-gate, in this pariſh, were deſcended lord viſcount Fanſhawe of the kingdom of Ireland, and Sir Richard Fanſhawe, Bart. ambaſſador to Spain in the reign of Charles II. There are ſtill ſome veſtiges of a manſion at Fanſhawe-gate, which now belongs to Mrs. Fanſhawe.

At

At *Cawley*, near Dronfield, is a ſulphureous ſpring and bath, the water of which is gently purgative.

NORTON PARISH.

A VICARAGE; Mr. Liſter patron. The pariſh conſiſts of ſeveral hamlets, containing 278 houſes. The manufacture of ſcythes is carried on here to a great extent. The number of perſons employed in it is 136 makers and twenty-five grinders; and beſides this, ſome of the principal manufacturers furniſh work for other pariſhes. *Norton-hall*, in the village of *Great Norton*, is the ſeat of Samuel Shore, Eſq.: *Norton-houſe*, in the ſame village, of Robert Newton, Eſq. At a ſmall diſtance is the large and ancient manſion of John Bagſhaw, Eſq.

IV.—*STAFFORDSHIRE.*

THE principal object for which we have included part of this county in our deſign having been its potteries, we ſhall almoſt ſolely confine our account of particulars to thoſe parts connected with them. The town which may be conſidered as their capital is

NEWCASTLE.

On the decay of the town or caſtle of Cheſterton-under-Lyme, which was a place of note before the conqueſt, the earl of Lancaſter, in the reign of Henry III. built another in the vicinity, in the midſt of a great pool, which he called the New-Caſtle, and which gave origin to the preſent town of that name. By Camden it is called *Newcaſtle-under-Lyme*; but Leland names it *Newcaſtle-under-Line*, and ſays it is ſo called of a brook running thereby, or of a hill, or a wood, ſo named. The remains of the caſtle have long ſince been obliterated, but the town has become a conſiderable place of trade.

Newcaſtle is ſituated on the ſide of a hill, deſcending rapidly into the vale. It is a corporate town; its corporation conſiſting of a mayor and twenty-one aldermen, of whom two are juſtices of the peace, a recorder, town-clerk, and two ſerjeants. It has a court for holding pleas,

pleas for any ſum under £.40, and the ſeſſions are quarterly. It is likewiſe a parliamentary borough, ſending two repreſentatives, choſen by the reſident freemen, whoſe number is computed at 664. The mayor is returning officer. The chief intereſt is in the marquis of Stafford, which has, however, been lately checked by the ſpirited and perſevering oppoſition of Thomas Fletcher, Eſq. a reſident in the place.

The church of Newcaſtle is large, but wants repair. There are ſeveral places of worſhip for diſſenters of various denominations. There are twenty alms-houſes, endowed by the Trentham family, for the ſupport of as many women, who are allowed each 2*s.* 11*d.* per week, and a new gown yearly.

Newcaſtle, including the late additions, is nearly a mile in length and breadth. Several of the ſtreets are ſpacious, the market-place particularly ſo, in which ſtands the town-hall; but the buildings have a black appearance in conſequence of the quantity of coals burnt in the manufactures. The inhabitants are chiefly in trade, and many of them opulent. There are two principal fairs, at Eaſter and Whitſunſide. The market-day is Monday, and every fortnight there is a cattle fair. A handſome little theatre was built in 1788 by the ſubſcription of twenty gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood. A ſingularity which deſerves mention, is a boarding-ſchool for young ladies built by ſubſcription, the houſe of which is elegant, and ſtands on the border of an extenſive and delightful public ground, called the Brampton.

The manufacture for which this town has been long noted, is that of hats, which formerly were almoſt ſolely of the coarſe kind, but of late

late years the manufacturers have been ſucceſsful in their attempts to make thoſe of the fineſt quality. A conſiderable quantity of the hats made here are bought for the uſe of the ſurrounding country, which is very populous; but by far the greater ſhare is ſent by orders to all parts of the kingdom. There are alſo large quantities of ſhoes made here for the London and other markets, as well as for exportation. A pottery has lately been eſtabliſhed in this town; and this branch of buſineſs is likely to ſucceed here to a conſiderable degree, provided an act be obtained, now in agitation, for cutting a canal from hence to communicate with the Grand Trunk at Stoke upon Trent.

The ſupply of coals to Newcaſtle is from the Apedale mines belonging to Sir Nigel Bowyer Greſley, Bart. conveyed from the pits to a wharf adjoining the town by a canal, the excluſive property of that gentleman, and ſold at a low price ſtipulated in the act of parliament empowering him to cut the canal.

The markets of Newcaſtle have declined, ſince ſeveral have been eſtabliſhed in the potteries; yet they are ſtill conſiderable, and well furniſhed with corn, butcher's meat, and other articles, generally at moderate prices. The town is alſo well ſupplied with water.

The land about the town is in general very good and fertile; the proſpects various and beautiful. The principal ſeats in the neighbourhood are,

Trentham-hall, a noble manſion of the Marquis of Stafford. The houſe has two grand, modern fronts, above a lawn ſloping to the Trent, and

is

is ſurrounded with grounds in which are blended all the beauties of art and nature.

Keel-hall, belonging to colonel Sneyd; a very reſpectable, ancient manſion.

Field-houſe, a pleaſing, rural villa of Thomas Yoxall, Eſq.; and the ſeats of H. Hatrel, Eſq.; James Bent, Eſq.; and at Woolſtanton, that of Ralph Moreton, Eſq.

The POTTERIES.

We ſhall begin with a particular account of the places in which this manufacture is ſeated, communicated by a very intelligent gentleman reſident on the ſpot.

ABOUT a mile from the borders of Cheſhire, the Staffordſhire potteries commence at a village called Golden-hill, from whence to the other extremity of the pottery at Lane End, is ſomething more than ſeven miles; a conſiderable part of which, by joining together, ſtrikes the traveller as but one town, although under different names. The manufacturing of pottery wares is the general and nearly ſole buſineſs of this extenſive and very populous quarter; and from the great increaſe of inhabitants and houſes in the laſt twenty years, (it being ſuppoſed that for every inhabitant or houſe then, there are at leaſt three now) in all probability, the various towns and villages of Golden-Hill, New-Field, Smith-Field, Tunſtall, Long-Port, Burſlem, Cobridge, Etruria, Hanley, Shelton, Stoke, Lower Lane, Lane Delf, and Lane End, will



E. Dayes del.r

W.m Wilson sculp.r

VIEW OF SMITH-FIELD

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will ere long be ſo intermixed with buildings, as to form only one town and one name. At a little diſtance they are all of them already ranked under the general name of *The Pottery*.

The Village of GOLDEN-HILL.—One ſhould ſuppoſe this from its name to be a conſiderable and even ſplendid place; but on compariſon it is found to be the leaſt ſo of any in the pottery; however, its valuable mines of coal make ample amends for its other deficiencies, and from thoſe mines the name was given it. At the upper end of this village is Green Lane, which commands a moſt unbounded and beautiful proſpect. On one ſide the greateſt part of Cheſhire at once ſhews itſelf, cloſed by the Welch hills; and on the other, a complete and the beſt general view of the pottery and country beyond it.

NEW-FIELD—is well ſituated for manufacturing purpoſes, having plenty of coals in its neighbourhood; but as the place belongs wholly to one individual, Smith Child, Eſq. who has a handſome ſeat here, it is probable that he will not ſuffer himſelf to be incommoded by a conſequence inevitable where there are a number of manufactories of earthen ware together, the nuiſance of the ſmoke and ſulphur ariſing from them. It is therefore ſuppoſed that the manufactories will not be ſpeedily increaſed here.

SMITH-FIELD.—The ſituation of this place, in point of convenience for manufacturing earthen wares, is not exceeded in the pottery. It has ſeveral ſtrata of coal and coarſe clay, which the potters uſe much of, cloſe to its manufactories; but belonging ſolely to Theophilus Smith, Eſq. (a view of whoſe ſeat is here given) this circumſtance will doubt-

doubtleſs prevent the erection of more works. The proſpects it commands are very beautiful and extenſive.

Tunstall, including its environs, is the pleaſanteſt village in the pottery. It ſtands on high ground, and commands pleaſing proſpects. The manufacturers in it are reſpectable, and do conſiderable buſineſs. There formerly was a church here, and various human bones have been dug up; but ſuch is the effect of time, that not the leaſt trace of either the one or the other remains now. A neat chapel has been lately built here. There are a conſiderable number of brick and tile works here, the clay being of a ſuperior kind for ſuch articles, ſo that with good management the tiles made from it are as blue, and look as well on the roof of a houſe, as moderate ſlate. This place is four miles from Newcaſtle, and nine from Congleton, ſtanding on the turnpike road from Lawton to Newcaſtle; another turnpike road alſo commences here, and ends at Boſley in Cheſhire.

Long Port, ſituated between Burſlem and Newcaſtle, in a valley; has ſome good buildings in it, and ſeveral conſiderable manufactories; but its ſituation thereby is rendered at times diſagreeable, if not unwholeſome, by the ſmoke hanging upon it longer than if it was on higher ground. The Staffordſhire canal paſſes Long Port, and has a public wharf upon it. This place was formerly called Long Bridge, from a kind of bridge which ran about a hundred yards parallel with the water; on the removal of which, and completion of the canal, added to its rapid increaſe in buildings and buſineſs, the inhabitants about twenty years ago changed its name to that of Long Port.

Burslem.—This is the ancient ſeat of the pottery, where doubtleſs earthen wares of one kind or other have been made many centuries. Doctor Plot, in his hiſtory of Staffordſhire, written in 1686, makes particular mention of the potteries of this place, and points them out as the greateſt of their kind. He alſo gives an admirable detail, deſcribing moſt minutely the proceſs and manner of making earthen ware in thoſe days. But as the wares of the preſent time are of a different kind, and very different alſo in the compoſition and manufacture, from that deſcribed by Dr. Plot, we ſhall, before we quit this neighbourhood, deſcribe the preſent mode of manufacturing earthen ware, from the clay to its completion.—This place has two markets in the week, Monday and Saturday; but the meeting on Monday is the moſt conſiderable. In the laſt four or five years they have eſtabliſhed regular fairs for cattle, which have been well attended. Burſlem is a pariſh, and has a good church, lately enlarged and thoroughly repaired, with a good organ. The late Mr. Weſtley gained conſiderable ground here. The methodiſts have a chapel, and are very numerous; they have alſo regular built chapels in ſeveral towns and villages of the pottery: it is, however, ſuppoſed that the members of this ſociety are not ſo numerous now as they were in the life-time of Mr. Weſtley. There are alſo great variety of other ſects in the pottery: few places have ſo great a diverſity of opinion on the ſcore of religion as this; but the effuſions of loyalty here upon moſt occaſions may be fairly ſtated to be general, warm, and ſincere.

Cobridge is a large village, has manufacturers of the ſtaple article of the country earthen ware in it, and lies part in Burſlem, and part in Stoke pariſh.

Etruria

ETRURIA belongs ſolely to Joſiah Wedgwood, Eſq. who has a very extenſive earthen ware manufactory here, a conſiderable village, a handſome ſeat, and complete grounds. In his pottery purſuits he has moſt deſervedly acquired a great fortune with an equal ſhare of reputation. The name of this place was given to it by Mr. Wedgwood, after an ancient ſtate in Italy, celebrated for the exquiſite taſte of its pottery, the remaining ſpecimens of which have ſerved greatly to improve the beauty of the modern articles. The Staffordſhire canal goes through Etruria grounds, which of courſe renders it a good manufacturing ſituation; but the whole belonging to one individual will moſt likely operate againſt an increaſe of manufactories.

HANLEY.—No part of the pottery can boaſt of more reſpectable manufacturers than this place and its vicinity. In point of ſize it is the next to Burſlem, but built ſo irregularly, that to a perſon in the midſt of it, it has ſcarcely the appearance of any thing beyond a moderate village; yet if the houſes had been properly joined together, it not only would make a capital town, but a well built one. It has a good market every Monday. All the produce of the country about is brought here, except corn, the public ſale of which is not allowed, it being ſo near the corn market at Newcaſtle. All the other markets in the pottery labour under the ſame inability, and from the ſame cauſe; but it is expected that attempts will be made ere long to get over ſuch an inconvenience, as the inhabitants in general here, and many in other places, ſeem determined to deal as little as poſſible with Newcaſtle, on account of ſome inſtances of an unaccommodating diſpoſition which have been ſhown by the latter. On the other hand, Newcaſtle, which was formerly the general market of the potteries, having of courſe felt ſome decline, in conſequence of the rapid riſe of their markets, has exhibited

hibited ſymptoms of diſſatisfaction, which have contributed to augment the mutual jealouſy and diſcontent between them.

Hanley has a very handſome, new-built and well-finiſhed church; there are alſo chapels and meeting-houſes for diſſenters. It is an improving and ſpirited place.

Shelton is an extenſive place, and has many conſiderable manufactories in it, amongſt the reſt, one which deſerves particular notice, the porcelain or china manufactory, carried on under the reſpectable firm of Hollins, Warburton, and Co. The china made here is very little, if at all, inferiour, eſpecially in the colours, to that of the Eaſt Indies. This kingdom produces all the various ſtone and clay which are uſed in this manufactory; and from the number of years it has already been eſtabliſhed, added to a regular increaſe of encouragement and demand for their porcelain, there is no doubt but the worthy proprietors will reap the fruits of their ſpirited adventure in fame and emolument. The ingenious Mr. Champion* of Briſtol, who diſcovered the art of making this porcelain, expended an ample fortune in the various trials. He had the good fortune, however, of bringing it to perfection, and obtained a patent for the excluſive privilege of making it, which he ſold to the above gentlemen for ſuch a ſum of money as enabled him to retire to America, but he has ſince returned to England. The navigation paſſes this place, upon which there is a public wharf, the conſequence of a water conveyance to and from the pottery, in ſuch bulky and heavy articles as the raw materials uſed in this country, and the goods when manufactured, muſt be obvious to every one.

* Author of "Conſiderations on American Commerce."

Stoke

STOKE UPON TRENT is the pariſh town; has an ancient, large church, well endowed; is a rectory, and has under it ſeveral chapels and churches. It has, like moſt other parts of the pottery, improved much ſince the Staffordſhire canal was cut. It contains ſome handſome buildings, and from its contiguity to a wharf upon the canal, is conveniently ſituated for trade. It has many earthen ware manufactories, ſome of which are upon an extenſive ſcale. At this place, a gentleman of the name of Spode eſtabliſhed a few years ago the firſt ſteam engine to grind burned flint for potters' uſe; which, it is ſaid, anſwers the expectation. The river Trent paſſes here, and at times with rapidity; nevertheleſs the brick arches which carry the navigation above the river do not ſeem to have ſuſtained much injury. J. Whieldon, Eſq. has a pleaſant rural ſeat here. A new road has lately been cut from this place to join the London road between Newcaſtle and Trentham. Heretofore the road lay through Newcaſtle, which was conſiderably round. From this place to Newcaſtle on the right, the proſpects are extremely beautiful; and nearly at the midway, a view ſo populous, and at the ſame time ſo pictureſque, is ſeldom met with.

LOWER LANE, LANE DELF, *and* LANE END, conclude the pottery beyond Stoke. The latter place is by far the moſt conſiderable. It has a new-built chapel under Stoke, a methodiſt chapel, and meeting-houſes for other diſſenters. Theſe places, particularly the latter, manufacture large quantities of earthen wares; but it is ſaid to be with leſs attention than in the other parts of the pottery, conſequently ſomething inferior in quality; at the ſame time, there are a few houſes whoſe wares are inferior to none. On the right hand, at Lower Lane, is *Fenton*, the ſeat of Charles Smith, Eſq. To the left, at Lane End, is *Longton-hall*, the ſeat of Sir John Edenſon Heathcote, and to the left

left of it *Park-hall*, the ſeat of —— Parker, Eſq. a deſcendant of lord chief juſtice Parker. Some earthen ware is alſo manufactured at New Chapel, Wolſtanton, Red-ſtreet, Newcaſtle, Norton, and ſome other places; but not in ſo extenſive a degree as in moſt of the places already mentioned.

With reſpect to the manufactures themſelves, we are happy in being able to preſent to our readers a very accurate account of their riſe, progreſs, and preſent ſtate, drawn up by a perſon of great chymical knowledge, and thoroughly acquainted with the ſubject.

Account of the Pottery Manufacture in Staffordſhire.

This part of the county, from the clays and the coal mines which it abounds with, appears better adapted for a manufactory of earthen wares than, perhaps, for any other. The *meaſures* or ſtrata, by which the beds of coal are divided, conſiſt moſt commonly of clays of different kinds, ſome of which make both excellent fire bricks for building the potters' kilns and ſaggars,* or caſes in which the ware is burnt. Finer clays, of various colour and textures, are likewiſe plentiful in many places, moſt of them near the ſurface of the earth; and of theſe, the bodies of the wares themſelves were formerly manufactured. The coals being then alſo got near the ſurface, were plentiful and cheap: Plot ſtates them, ſo late as his time, at twopence the horſe load, which, at eight horſe loads to a ton, (the common eſtimation) amounts only to ſixteen pence per ton. The land, having chiefly a clay bottom, was unfavourable to the productions of huſbandry; and its remoteneſs from the ſeats of commerce contributed further to render labour cheap. All

* This is a corruption of the German word *ſchragers*, which ſignifies caſes or ſupporters.

theſe

theſe circumſtances conſidered together, with ſome others which will be mentioned hereafter, may poſſibly afford the beſt anſwer to a queſtion which has often been aſked, why the pottery was eſtabliſhed in Staffordſhire preferably to any other place, and why it ſtill continues to flouriſh there more than in any other part of the kingdom, or perhaps of the world?

How long this kind of manufactory has ſubſiſted here is utterly unknown. It can be traced with certainty for at leaſt two centuries back; and no document or tradition remains of its firſt introduction. Its principal ſeat ſeems to have been formerly the town of Burſlem, and it was then called a *butter* pottery, that is, a manufactory of pots in which butter was kept; and we have ſeen it ſo denominated in a very old map. As a proof of the antiquity of the manufacture in this neighbourhood, it may be proper to mention, that about ſeventy years ago, below the foundation of a building then taken down and ſuppoſed to have been not leſs than a hundred years old, the bottom of a potter's kiln was diſcovered, with ſome of the ſaggars upon it, and pieces of the ware in them; and that about the ſame time a road, which had long before been made acroſs a field, being worn down into a hollow way, the hearth of a potter's kiln was found to be cut through by this hollow part of the road; and it was not among the then exiſting, or then remembered potteries, that theſe old works were diſcovered, but at a conſiderable diſtance, in places where no tradition remained among the oldeſt inhabitants of the neighbouring villages that any pot-works had ever been. It may be added, that pieces of ware, of the rudeſt workmanſhip and without any glaze or varniſh, are frequently met with in digging for the foundations of new erections.

Though

Though the old remains are undoubtedly the productions of diſtant periods, they give little or no light into the ſucceſſive improvements made in the art; nor indeed could any good purpoſe be anſwered by an inquiry of that kind; for though the manufacture has, within our memory, advanced with amazing rapidity to its preſent magnitude, it ſeems to have continued for a long ſeries of years almoſt uniformly rude and unintereſting. Even ſo late as the year 1686, when Dr. Plot publiſhed his hiſtory of the county, the quantity of goods manufactured was ſo inconſiderable, that "the principal ſale of them," the doctor ſays, "was to the poor crate-men, who carried them *at their backs* all over "the country!" All the ware was then of the coarſe yellow, red, black, and mottled kind, made from the clays found in the neighbourhood, as already mentioned; the body of the ware being formed of the inferior kinds of clay, and afterwards painted or mottled with the finer coloured ones mixed with water, ſeparately or blended together, much in the ſame manner that paper is marbled. The common glaze was produced by lead ore, finely powdered, and ſprinkled on the pieces of ware before firing; ſometimes with the addition of a little manganeſe, for the ſake of the brown colour it communicates; and, when the potter wiſhed "to ſhew the utmoſt of his ſkill" (to uſe Dr. Plot's expreſſion) in giving the ware a higher gloſs than ordinary, he employed, inſtead of lead ore, calcined lead itſelf, but ſtill ſprinkled it on the pieces in the ſame rude manner.

The æra of improvement commenced a few years after the publication of Plot's work, by the introduction of a new ſpecies of glaze, produced by throwing into the kiln, when brought to its greateſt heat, a quantity of common ſalt, the fumes of which occaſioned a ſuperficial vitrification of the clay. How long this practice might have ſubſiſted

in

in other countries, is unknown; but it was firſt brought hither about the year 1690, by two ingenious foreigners of the name of Elers,* who eſtabliſhed a ſmall pot-work at Bradwall near Burſlem; and it was in the memory of ſome old perſons, with whom a friend of ours was well acquainted, that the inhabitants of Burſlem flocked with aſtoniſhment to ſee the immenſe volumes of ſmoke which roſe "from the Dutchmen's "ovens," on caſting in the ſalt; a circumſtance which ſufficiently ſhews the novelty of this practice in the Staffordſhire potteries. The ſame perſons introduced likewiſe another ſpecies of ware, in imitation of the unglazed red China from the Eaſt; and the clays in this country being ſuitable for the purpoſe, they ſucceeded wonderfully for a firſt attempt, inſomuch that ſome of their tea-pots are ſaid to have been ſold ſo high as a guinea a-piece; and ſome of the ſpecimens which ſtill remain in the country are very perfect in their kind, as well with reſpect to the texture and quality of the ware itſelf, as to the form and workmanſhip. The foreigners, however, did not long continue in this ſituation; finding the manufacturers about them very inquiſitive, and not chooſing to have their procedures ſo narrowly inſpected, they quitted Staffordſhire, and ſet up a manufacture near London.

The eſtabliſhment of the new glaze with ſalt was ſucceeded, in a ſhort time, by a capital improvement in the body of the ware itſelf, which the tradition of the country attributes to the following incident: One of the potters (Mr. Aſtbury) in a journey to London, happened to have powdered flint recommended to him, by the oſtler of his inn at Dunſtable, for curing ſome diſorder in one of his horſe's eyes; and for

* A deſcendant of one of theſe ingenious foreigners was lately a reſpectable magiſtrate in the county of Oxford.

that

that purpoſe a flint ſtone was thrown into the fire to render it more eaſily pulverable. The potter, obſerving the flint to be changed by the fire to a pure white, was immediately ſtruck with the idea that his ware might be improved by an addition of this material to the whiteſt clays he could procure. Accordingly he ſent home a quantity of the flint ſtones, which are plentiful among the chalk in that part of the country, and on trial of them with tobacco-pipe clay, the event proved fully anſwerable to his expectation. Thus originated the *white* ſtone ware, which ſoon ſupplanted the coloured ones, and continued for many years the ſtaple branch of pottery.

Thoſe who became firſt acquainted with the great improvement produced by the addition of flint, endeavouring, as is uſual in ſuch caſes, to keep the ſecret to themſelves, had the flints pounded in mortars by manual labour, in cellars or in private rooms; but the operation proved pernicious to many of the workmen, the fine duſt getting into the lungs, and producing dreadful coughs and conſumptions, and theſe alarming complaints of the men may be preſumed to have haſtened the diſcovery of the ſource from which they had ariſen. The ſecret becoming generally known, the conſequent increaſe of demand for the flint powder occaſioned trials to be made of mills, of various conſtructions, for ſtamping and for grinding it; and the ill effects of the duſt, which could not be entirely guarded againſt when the ſtones were either pounded or ground dry, pointed out an addition of water in the grinding. This method, being found effectual as well as ſafe, is ſtill continued: the ground flint comes from the mill in a liquid ſtate about the conſiſtence of cream; and the tobacco-pipe clay being mixed up with water to the ſame conſiſtence, the two liquids are proportioned to one another by meaſure inſtead of weight.

A little

A little after the uſe of flint had been introduced, an improvement was made by an ingenious mechanic in the neighbourhood, Mr. Alſager, in the potter's wheel, by which its motion was greatly accelerated. This enabled the potters to form their ware not only with greater expedition and facility, but likewiſe with more neatneſs and preciſion than they had done before.

By theſe means the manufacture was ſo far improved, in the beginning of the preſent century, as to furniſh various articles for tea and coffee equipages, and ſoon after for the dinner table alſo. Before the middle of the century theſe articles were manufactured in quantity, as well for exportation as home conſumption. The ſalt glaze, however, the only one then in uſe for theſe purpoſes, is in its own nature ſo imperfect, and the potters, from an injudicious competition among themſelves for cheapneſs rather than for excellence, had been ſo inattentive to elegance of forms and neatneſs of workmanſhip, that this ware began to be rejected from genteel tables, and ſupplanted by a white ware of finer forms and more beautiful glaze, which, about the year 1760, was imported in conſiderable quantities from France.

This inundation of a foreign manufacture, ſo much ſuperior to our own, muſt have had very bad effects upon the potteries of this kingdom, if a new one, ſtill more to the public taſte, had not happily been ſoon after produced here. In 1763, Mr. Joſiah Wedgwood, who had already introduced ſeveral improvements into this art, as well with reſpect to the forms and colours of the wares, as the compoſition of which they were made, invented a ſpecies of earthen ware for the table, of a firm and durable body, and covered with a rich and brilliant glaze, and bearing ſudden viciſſitudes of cold and heat without injury: it was

accom-

accompanied alſo with the advantage of being manufactured with eaſe and expedition, was ſold cheap, and as it poſſeſſed, with the novelty of its appearance, every requiſite quality for the purpoſe intended, it came quickly into general eſtimation and uſe. To this manufacture the Queen was pleaſed to give her name and patronage, commanding it to be called *Queen's Ware*, and honouring the inventor by appointing him her majeſty's potter.

This ware is compoſed of the whiteſt clays from Devonſhire, Dorſetſhire, and other places; mixed with a due proportion of ground flint. The pieces are fired twice, and the glaze applied after the firſt firing, in the ſame manner as on porcelain. The glaze is a vitreous compoſition, of flint and other white earthy bodies, with an addition of white lead for the flux, analogous to common flint glaſs; ſo that, when prepared in perfection, the ware may be conſidered as coated over with real flint glaſs. This compound being mixed with water to a proper conſiſtence, the pieces, after the firſt firing, are ſeparately dipt in it: being ſomewhat bibulous, they drink in a quantity of the mere water, and the glaze which was united with that portion of the water remains adherent, uniformly, all over their ſurface, ſo as to become, by the ſecond firing, a coat of perfect glaſs.

To the continued experimental reſearches of the ſame perſon we owe the invention of ſeveral other ſpecies of earthen ware and porcelain, adapted to various purpoſes of ornament and uſe. The principal are the ſix following:

1. A *terra cotta*; reſembling porphyry, granite, Egyptian pebble, and other beautiful ſtones of the ſiliceous or cryſtalline order.

2. *Baſaltes*

2. *Baſaltes* or black ware; a black porcelain biſcuit of nearly the ſame properties with the natural ſtone; ſtriking fire with ſteel, receiving a high poliſh, ſerving as a touchſtone for metals, reſiſting all the acids, and bearing, without injury, a ſtrong fire, ſtronger indeed than the baſaltes itſelf.

3. *White porcelain biſcuit*, of a ſmooth wax-like ſurface, of the ſame properties with the preceding, except in what depends upon colour.

4. *Jaſper*; a white porcelain biſcuit of exquiſite beauty and delicacy, poſſeſſing the general properties of the baſaltes, together with the ſingular one of receiving through its whole ſubſtance, from the admixture of metallic calces with the other materials, the ſame colours which thoſe calces communicate to glaſs or enamels in fuſion; a property which no other porcelain or earthen ware body, of ancient or modern compoſition, has been found to poſſeſs. This renders it peculiarly fit for making cameos, portraits, and all ſubjects in bas relief, as the ground may be of any particular colour, while the raiſed figures are of a pure white.

5. *Bamboo*, or cane-coloured biſcuit porcelain; of the ſame nature as No. 3.

6. *A porcelain biſcuit*, remarkable for great *hardneſs*, little inferior to that of agate: this property, together with its reſiſtance to the ſtrongeſt acids and corroſives, and its impenetrability by every known liquid, adapts it for mortars and many different kinds of chemical veſſels.

Theſe

Theſe ſix diſtinct ſpecies, with the queen's ware already mentioned, expanded, by the induſtry and ingenuity of the different manufacturers, into an infinity of forms for ornament and uſe, variouſly painted and embelliſhed, conſtitute nearly the whole of the preſent fine Engliſh earthen wares and porcelain, which are now become the ſource of a very extenſive trade, and which, conſidered as an object of national art, induſtry, and commerce, may be ranked amongſt the moſt important manufactures of the kingdom.

The evidence given by Mr. Wedgwood to the committee of Privy Council, and at the bars of the two Houſes of Parliament, when a commercial arrangement with Ireland was in agitation, in 1785, will give ſome idea of the preſent extent of this manufacture, and of its value to our maritime and landed, as well as our commercial, intereſts.

Though the manufacturing part alone, in the potteries and their vicinity, gives bread to fifteen or twenty thouſand people, including the wives and children of thoſe who are employed in it; he looks upon this as a ſmall object when compared with the many others which depend on it, namely, 1. The immenſe quantity of *inland carriage* it creates throughout the kingdom, both for its raw materials and finiſhed goods: —2. The great number of people employed in the extenſive collieries for its uſe:—3. The ſtill greater number employed in *raiſing* and *preparing* its raw materials, in ſeveral diſtant parts of England, from near the Land's-end in Cornwall—one way along different parts of the coaſt, to Falmouth, Teignmouth, Exeter, Pool, Graveſend, and the Norfolk coaſt—the other way, to Biddeford, Wales, and the Iriſh coaſt:—4. The *coaſting veſſels*, which, after having been employed at the proper ſeaſon in the Newfoundland fiſhery, carry theſe materials coaſt-wiſe to

Liverpool

Liverpool and Hull, to the amount of more than 20,000 tons yearly, at times when they would otherwiſe be laid up idle in harbour:—5. The further conveyance of them from thoſe ports, by *river and canal navigation*, to the potteries ſituated in one of the moſt inland parts of this kingdom:—and 6. The *re-conveyance* of the finiſhed goods to the different ports of this iſland, where they are ſhipped for every foreign market that is open to the earthen wares of England.

He obſerves further, that this manufacture is attended with ſome advantageous circumſtances almoſt peculiar to itſelf, viz. that the value of the manufactured goods conſiſts almoſt wholly in labour; that one ton of raw materials produces ſeveral tons of finiſhed goods for ſhipping, the freight being then charged, not by the weight, but by the bulk;—that ſcarce a veſſel leaves any of our ports without more or leſs of theſe cheap, bulky, and therefore valuable articles to this maritime country; and, above all, that not leſs than five parts in ſix, of the whole produce of the potteries, are exported to foreign markets.

Important as the pottery may now appear, and rapid as its progreſſion has been within the laſt thirty years, Mr. Wedgwood, in his evidence to the Houſe of Commons, declares himſelf ſtrongly impreſſed with the idea, that the art is ſtill but in its infancy, compared with what it may arrive at *if not interrupted in its growth*. In a hiſtory of commerce lately publiſhed,* the editor, after quoting Mr. Wedgwood's evidence, ſuppoſes that by this laſt expreſſion he alludes to the introduction of *exciſe laws* in the pottery, of which, it ſeems, there was ſome talk at that time; but adds, very juſtly, that it would have been too im-

* Appendix to the ſecond edition of Anderſon's Hiſtory of Commerce, vol. iv. p. 700.

politic

politic a ſtep to check ſo growing a manufacture by exciſe laws, more eſpecially when five-ſixths of the duty collected muſt have been paid back again upon exportation of the goods, and an opening thereby made for fraud, which, if we may judge from what has been practiſed in ſome other articles, would have made the drawback amount to more than the original payment.

To the preceding general account of the manufacture, we ſhall add a more particular deſcription of the proceſs uſed in manufacturing the earthen ware, which has been communicated to us by a perſon on the ſpot.

A piece of the prepared mixture of clay and ground flint, dried and tempered to a proper conſiſtence, is taken to be formed into any required ſhape and faſhion, by a man who ſits over a machine called a wheel, on the going round of which he continues forming the ware. This branch is called *throwing*, and as water is required to prevent the clay ſticking to the hand, it is neceſſary to place it for a ſhort time in a warm ſituation. It then undergoes the operation of being turned, and made much ſmoother than it was before, by a perſon called a turner; when it is ready for the handle and ſpout to be joined to, by the branch called *handling*.—Diſhes, plates, tureens, and many other articles are made from moulds of ground plaiſter, and when finiſhed, the whole are placed carefully (being then in a much more brittle ſtate than when fired) in ſaggars, which in ſhape and form pretty much reſemble a lady's band-box without its cover, but much thicker, and are made from the marl or clay of this neighbourhood. The larger ovens or kilns are placed full of ſaggars ſo filled with ware; and after a fire which conſumes from twelve to fifteen tons of coal, when the oven is become

become cool again, the ſaggars are taken out, and their contents removed, often exceeding in number 30,000 various pieces; but this depends upon the general ſizes of the ware. In this ſtate the ware is called *biſcuit*, and the body of it has much the appearance of a new tobacco pipe, not having the leaſt gloſs upon it. It then is immerſed or dipped into a fluid generally conſiſting of ſixty pounds of white lead, ten pounds of ground flint, and twenty pounds of a ſtone from Cornwall burned and ground, all mixed together, and as much water put to it as reduces it to the thickneſs of cream, which it reſembles. Each piece of ware being ſeparately immerſed or dipped into this fluid, ſo much of it adheres all over the piece, that when put into other ſaggars, and expoſed to another operation of fire, performed in the gloſſing kiln or oven, the ware becomes finiſhed by acquiring its gloſſy covering, which is given it by the vitrification of the above ingredients. Enamelled ware undergoes a third fire after its being painted, in order to bind the colour on.

A ſingle piece of ware, ſuch as a common enamelled tea-pot, a mug, jug, &c. paſſes through at leaſt fourteen different hands before it is finiſhed, viz.

The ſlipmaker, who makes the clay;
The temperer, or beater of the clay;
The thrower, who forms the ware;
The ballmaker and carrier;
The attender upon the drying of it;
The turner who does away its roughneſs;
The ſpoutmaker;
The handler, who puts to the handle and ſpout;

The

The firſt, or biſcuit fireman;
The perſon who immerſes or dips it into the lead fluid;
The ſecond, or gloſs fireman;
The dreſſer, or ſorter in the warehouſe;
The enameller, or painter;
The muffle, or enamel fireman.

Several more are required to the completion of ſuch piece of ware, but are in inferior capacities, ſuch as turners of the wheel, turners of the lathe, &c. &c.

We cannot more properly cloſe this account of the Staffordſhire potteries, than with a biographical record of the perſon to whom they have been ſo much indebted, extracted from the *Gentleman's Magazine* for January 1795, the period of his much-lamented death.

"DIED, at Etruria, in Staffordſhire, aged 64, JOSIAH WEDGWOOD, Eſq. F. R. and A. SS.; to whoſe indefatigable labours is owing the eſtabliſhment of a manufacture that has opened a new ſcene of extenſive commerce, before unknown to this or any other country. It is unneceſſary to ſay that this alludes to the Pottery of Staffordſhire, which, by the united efforts of Mr. Wedgwood, and his late partner, Mr. Bentley, has been carried to a degree of perfection, both in the line of utility and ornament, that leaves all works, ancient or modern, far behind.

"Mr. Wedgwood was the younger ſon of a potter, but derived little or no property from his father, whoſe poſſeſſions conſiſted chiefly of a ſmall entailed eſtate, which deſcended to the eldeſt ſon. He was the maker

maker of his own fortune, and his country has been benefited in a proportion not to be calculated. His many diſcoveries of new ſpecies of earthen wares and porcelains, his ſtudied forms and chaſte ſtyle of decoration, and the correctneſs and judgment with which all his works were executed under his own eye, and by artiſts, for the moſt part, of his own forming, have turned the current in this branch of commerce; for, before his time, England imported the finer earthen wares; but, for more than twenty years paſt, ſhe has exported them to a very great annual amount, the whole of which is drawn from the earth, and from the induſtry of the inhabitants; while the national taſte has been improved, and its reputation raiſed in foreign countries. His inventions have prodigiouſly increaſed the number of perſons employed in the potteries, and in the traffic and tranſport of their materials from diſtant parts of the kingdom: and this claſs of manufacturers is alſo indebted to him for much mechanical contrivance and arrangement in their operations; his private manufactory having had, for thirty years and upwards, all the efficacy of a public work of experiment. Neither was he unknown in the walks of philoſophy. His communications to the Royal Society ſhew a mind enlightened by ſcience, and contributed to procure him the eſteem of ſcientific men at home and throughout Europe. His invention of a thermometer for meaſuring the higher degrees of heat employed in the various arts, is of the higheſt importance to their promotion, and will add celebrity to his name. At an early period of his life, ſeeing the impoſſibility of extending conſiderably the manufactory he was engaged in on the ſpot which gave him birth, without the advantages of inland navigation, he was the propoſer of the Grand Trunk Canal, and the chief agent in obtaining the act of parliament for making it, againſt the prejudices of the landed intereſt, which at that time ſtood very high, and but juſt before

before had been with great difficulty overcome in another quarter by all the powerful influence of a noble Duke, whoſe canal was at that time but lately finiſhed.—Having acquired a large fortune, his purſe was always open to the calls of charity, and to the ſupport of every inſtitution for the public good. To his relations, friends, and neighbours, he was endeared by his many private virtues; and his loſs will be deeply and long deplored by all who had the pleaſure of knowing them intimately, and by the numerous objects to whom his benevolence was extended: and he will be regretted by his country as the able and zealous ſupporter of her commerce, and the ſteady patron of every valuable intereſt of ſociety."

We ſhall add, that the great concerns of the late Mr. Wedgwood are now under the joint management of Meſſrs. Joſiah Wedgwood and Thomas Byerley.

LEEK.

THIS is the principal market-town of the Moorlands. It is ſituated on the ſide of a hill with a ſteep deſcent to a ſmall river, which is a branch of the Churnet; and is a middling-ſized, clean town, with wide and open ſtreets, and a ſpacious market-place. It anciently belonged to the earls of Cheſter. The market is on Wedneſday, and there are fairs at Candlemas, Eaſter, Whitſuntide, and other times in the year. The church is a fine, large edifice, ſtanding on a high ground, which commands a delightful proſpect up and down rich vallies to the north and weſt. In the church-yard is a tall pyramidal ſtone, adorned with imagery and fret-work. The town is well ſupplied with water, which, together with its ſituation, contributes to its cleanlineſs.

Leek

Leek long ago participated in the button trade with Macclesfield, of which an account is given under that town. It now poſſeſſes a conſiderable manufacture in the ſilk and mohair branches, the goods made from which materials are ſewing-ſilks, twiſt, buttons, ſilk-ferrets, ſhawls, and ſilk handkerchiefs. In theſe manufactures are employed about two thouſand inhabitants of the town, and one thouſand of the adjacent country. Some good fortunes have been made by the Leek manufacturers, and its trade has been very flouriſhing; but the check on paper credit three years ſince injured it, and the war has leſſened the foreign demand. Still, however, a good deal of buſineſs is done here, and the difficulties with reſpect to credit have in great meaſure been got over.

This town, lying at an equal diſtance between Aſhbourn and Macclesfield, Buxton and Newcaſtle, and being on the London road to Mancheſter, is much frequented by perſons travelling through the country in all directions, from which it derives conſiderable advantage.

The annexed view of Leek was taken from the road leading to Newcaſtle, which is thought to afford the beſt proſpect of the place, though there is no very favourable one.

VIEW OF LEEK.

V.—*WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.*

THE propoſed limits of our work have been ſo nearly filled by the details which have crowded upon us from the parts already viſited, that we ſhall be obliged to content ourſelves with a conciſe view of the moſt important objects preſented by the large and intereſting diſtrict to which we have now arrived. Without attending to the topographical diviſions of the county, we ſhall make a tour through its principal commercial towns; beginning with one in its moſt ſouthern part, diſtinguiſhed by a branch of manufacture entirely different in its nature from that which in general characteriſes the Weſt Riding. This is

SHEFFIELD,

or *Sheaf-field*, a town of ancient note for its trade in cutlery and hardware, and called by Leland the principal market-town in *Hallam-ſhire*, a diſtrict ſaid by him to extend ſix or ſeven miles to the weſt of Sheffield. The town is ſituated near the borders of Derbyſhire, in the deanry of Doncaſter, and the united hundreds of Strafforth and Tickhill, upon an eminence at the confluence of the rivers Sheaf and Don, over each of which is a ſtone bridge. That over the Don called Lady's-bridge, conſiſting of three arches, and leading to Barnſley to the north, and Rotherham to the north-eaſt, is ſuppoſed to be ſo named from a religious houſe which anciently ſtood near it, and was dedicated to the Virgin

Virgin Mary, which was afterwards converted into alms-houſes for poor widows. But when the bridge was widened, in 1768, theſe houſes were pulled down. It was erected originally in 1485, for 100 marks, the town finding all the materials.—The bridge over the Sheaf was rebuilt by Edward duke of Norfolk in 1769, conſiſting of one arch; and leads to Sheffield-park, Hanſworth-Woodhouſe, &c. to the eaſt. The extent of the town from eaſt to weſt and from north to ſouth is about three quarters of a mile. It is ſix miles diſtant from Rotherham, eighteen from Doncaſter, thirteen from Barnſley, thirty-ſix from Leeds, ſix from Dronfield, eleven from Cheſterfield, and 162 from London.

In the north-eaſt part of the town, where the two rivers meet, ſtood anciently a ſtrong caſtle, of a triangular form, guarded on two ſides by the rivers Don and Sheaf, having a ſtrong breaſt-work before the gates, which were paliſadoed, with a trench twelve feet deep and eighteen feet wide, full of water, and a wall round five yards thick. This caſtle, with the lordſhip of Sheffield, was granted (as appears by an ancient record) to Thomas lord Fournyvale, 39 Edward III. to be held by homage and knight's ſervice and the payment to the king and his heirs of two white hares, yearly, on the feaſt of St. John the Baptiſt. It was ſurrendered, upon articles of capitulation, to the parliament forces by commiſſioners authorized by the governor, major Beaumont, Auguſt 10, 1644, and was afterwards demoliſhed; ſo that there are very few veſtiges of it remaining, except that the ſtreets and places thereabouts ſtill retain the names of the Caſtle-hill, Caſtle-ditch, Caſtle-fold, Caſtle-green, &c.

The

The river Don, which, being joined by the Sheaf, runs hence to Rotherham, is navigable for ſmall veſſels at about three miles diſtance from Sheffield; and thence to and above the town great numbers of works are erected upon it for forging, ſlitting, and preparing the iron and ſteel for the Sheffield manufactures, and for grinding knives, ſciſſars, ſheers, &c.

As a certain portion of ground or tenements in the town belongs to the freeholders at large, ſo ſeven of them (four of the eſtabliſhed church and three diſſenters) are appointed, under the title of *town collectors*, to grant leaſes, receive rents, and apply the produce of the eſtate to public uſes, ſuch as lighting the ſtreets, &c.

The corporation here concerns only the manufactory, and is ſtiled *The Company of Cutlers of Hallamſhire*. The act for the eſtabliſhment of this corporation was paſſed in 1625, and an amendment was made to it in 1791. It is governed by a maſter, two wardens, ſix ſearchers, and twenty-four aſſiſtants. The maſter is elected annually on the laſt Thurſday in Auguſt, after having paſſed through the inferior offices.

Churches, &c.—There are four places of public worſhip according to the church of England. Trinity church, anciently called St. Peter's, which ſtands near the centre of the town, was erected about the year 1100. It is a vicarage, and formerly belonged to the priory of Worksop, in Nottinghamſhire. The vicar's income chiefly depends upon the ſmall tithes, Eaſter dues, and fees for marriages, churchings, and burials; the glebe being but ſmall, though lately improved. The vicar has

has three aſſiſtant-miniſters, who were firſt appointed, and a donation of land made for their ſupport, and other purpoſes, by queen Mary, in 1553. They are elected by the twelve capital burgeſſes, as they are ſtiled, who are truſtees for the donation. The office of theſe aſſiſtant-miniſters or chaplains, according to the grant, was to aſſiſt the vicar in *ſacramentis et ſacramentalibus in parochiali eccleſia Sheffieldienſi et parochianis ibidem*. The church is a Gothic ſtructure with a handſome ſpire in the centre. It has eight very tunable bells, and a ſet of chimes made in 1773 by Mr. Whitehurſt of Derby. It conſiſts within of a nave, two ſide aiſles, and a large chancel. On the north ſide of the communion-table is the veſtry and library, over which is a room where the twelve burgeſſes before mentioned tranſact buſineſs relative to their truſt. On the ſouth ſide is the Shrewſbury chapel which contains the monuments of three earls of Shrewſbury, of the family of the Talbots, viz. George, the fourth earl, and his two wives, Anne the daughter of William, lord Haſtings, and Elizabeth the daughter of Sir Richard Walden, of Erith, in Kent: he died anno 1538; Francis, the fifth earl, who died anno 1559; George, the ſixth earl, who died in 1599. On the arrival of Mary queen of Scots in England, ſhe was put under the care of this nobleman, anno 1568, and ſo continued till 1584. Here likewiſe was interred, Gilbert, the ſeventh earl of Shrewſbury, ſon of the preceding, who died in 1616. On the ſide north of the chancel is a mural monument to the memory of judge Jeſſop and his lady, of Broom-hall, near this town; and on the ſouth ſide is another to the memory of George Bamforth, Eſq. of High-houſe, near Sheffield. The moſt ancient epitaph now to be met with in this church is upon a braſs plate near the north corner of the communion rails, in the following words:

Here

Here lyeth Elizabeth, doughter
of Thomas Erle of Ormond
and Lore his wyf ſomtyme
wyf to the Lord Mountjoye,
which Elizabeth deceaſed
the xx day of February
the year of our Lord MCCCCCX.
On whoſe ſoul then have mercy men.

Anno 1700, was interred near the chancel door of this church William Walker, who, from ſtrong circumſtances, there is reaſon to believe was executioner of king Charles the firſt; ſee Gent. Mag. vol. xxxvii. 548, xxxviii. 10, lvii. 759.

St. Paul's church is an elegant modern ſtructure in the Grecian ſtile. It was begun to be erected in 1720, but through ſome unhappy miſunderſtandings was not conſecrated till 1740. It was founded through the benefaction of £.1000 from Mr. Robert Downes, a ſilverſmith in this town, together with the ſubſcriptions of ſeveral other gentlemen in the town and neighbourhood. It was finiſhed in 1771. This church has a tower at the weſt end, with a bell and clock preſented by Francis Sitwell, Eſq. Within is a good organ erected in 1755 by Mr. Snitzler, and the galleries are ſupported by two rows of Corinthian pillars. It is a chapel of eaſe to Trinity church. St. James's church is a handſome modern building, erected by ſubſcription upon the glebe land belonging to the vicarage, according to an act of parliament paſſed in 1788, and was conſecrated Auguſt 5, 1789. The chapel at the duke of Norfolk's hoſpital, rebuilt in 1777 in an octagonal form, was principally deſigned for the penſioners, who have daily prayers performed here by a miniſter of the church of England, and two ſermons on Sundays. It is calculated to contain a large congregation, but its conſtruction is unfavourable to the hearers.

Near St. Paul's church to the north-eaſt is a diſſenting meeting-houſe built in 1700; another at a little diſtance below erected 1710;

near

near to this a methodiſt meeting-houſe opened, June 30, 1780. In Queen-ſtreet north of Trinity church a new diſſenting meeting-houſe was erected in 1784; there is another in Coal-pit-lane, ſouth-weſt from St. Paul's; another in Howard-ſtreet, eaſt of St. Paul's, opened April 11, 1790; another in Brick-lane, north-weſt from Trinity church; and another in Scotland-ſtreet, north-weſt of the ſame church, where the Liturgy of the eſtabliſhment is read, but its miniſter is not ſubject to epiſcopal juriſdiction. A little diſtance from Trinity church to the north-eaſt is a quaker's meeting-houſe; and in Norfolk-row is a Romiſh chapel.

Charitable Inſtitutions.—On the eaſt ſide of the river Sheaf near the bridge is an hoſpital, erected in 1670 by Henry, earl of Norwich, great grandſon of Gilbert, earl of Shrewſbury, in purſuance of his laſt will and teſtament, and endowed with divers eſtates. March 3, 1770, Edward, duke of Norfolk, gave by deed £.1000 for the augmentation of the funds of the ſaid hoſpital, which ſum was applied by the truſtees towards building a new chapel by the ſide of the old one. The hoſpital conſiſts of two quadrangles containing eighteen dwellings in each. It was intended originally for the benefit of fifteen men and fifteen women, aged and decayed houſekeepers, for each of whom was provided a houſe and garden, a penſion of 2*s.* 6*d.* a week, three cart loads of coals annually, two new ſhirts or ſhifts, and a blue gown or looſe coat every ſecond year, and a purple gown and badge every ſeventh year. But, through the improvement of the eſtate belonging to this charity, three more dwellings have been added to each quadrangle, and three men and three women penſioners additionally admitted upon the foundation; and by a ſtill farther improvement of the eſtate the truſtees were enabled to advance their penſions at Michaelmas

mas 1763 to 3*s.* 6*d.* and of late to 5*s.* a week. On the north ſide of the town is another hoſpital erected in 1703 by Mr. Thomas Hollis, a merchant in London, who, it is ſaid, was a native of this town, for the benefit of ſixteen poor cutlers' widows. They have each a ſeparate habitation and 6*l.* 10*s.* a year, which is paid, in ſome meaſure, quarterly; two cart loads of coals annually, and a brown gown and petticoat every ſecond year. Upon the ſame foundation a maſter is appointed to teach forty boys to read Engliſh, and a writing-maſter to inſtruct a number of them to write during three or four of the ſummer months. There is a very good improveable eſtate belonging to this charity which is under the management of fifteen truſtees. At the north-eaſt corner of Trinity church-yard is a charity ſchool for cloathing, feeding, and inſtructing, in Engliſh, writing, and accounts, poor boys from the age of ſeven to thirteen. They are dreſſed in a blue uniform with bands and caps, as uſual in ſuch places. There are at preſent fifty-four upon the foundation. This charity was inſtituted in 1708, and is ſupported by annual ſubſcriptions, charity-ſermon collections, dividends of ſtock in the funds, ſome ſmall rents, &c. At the north-weſt corner of Trinity church-yard is a charity ſchool, erected in 1786, for cloathing, feeding, and inſtructing poor girls in reading Engliſh, ſewing, knitting, ſpinning jerſey and line, and in ſuch other particulars as may qualify them to be uſeful ſervants. There are at preſent fifty upon the foundation. They are admitted at the age of ſeven and continued till they are fourteen or fifteen, at the option of the truſtees, when they are engaged out to proper places. This charity is ſupported by annual ſubſcriptions, charity-ſermon collections, &c. Weſt from here is a free grammar ſchool, the patent for which was granted by James the firſt, though, as appears from a date upon the portal, the building was not completed till 1649. It has a head-maſter (who muſt

be

be a graduate in one of the univerſities) and an uſher. The head-maſter has a good houſe adjoining to the ſchool. A little below the grammar ſchool to the north is a writing ſchool, erected in this century, where ſixty poor boys are taught writing and accounts, gratis. About half a mile weſt from the town, September 4, 1793, was laid the firſt ſtone for an infirmary upon a large and noble ſcale. Towards this inſtitution between £.16,000 and £.17,000 have been ſubſcribed; the ſubſcription having been opened by the late Mrs. Fell, of Attercliffe near Sheffield, with a donation of £.1000. A committee have been appointed to manage every thing relative to the building, &c.; and there is no doubt that the liberality of the public will be applied with the ſtricteſt and moſt judicious attention to the important and valuable purpoſes which the ſubſcribers have had in view. It is fortunate for the intereſts of humanity that the ſubſcription towards this benevolent inſtitution was begun, and in a great meaſure completed, before the trade of the town and neighbourhood had experienced any depreſſion or interruption from the war.

Public Buildings, &c.—In 1762 were erected in the ſouth-eaſt part of the town, in Norfolk-ſtreet, an aſſembly room and a theatre, by the joint ſubſcription of about thirty gentlemen in the town, who, of courſe, remained the proprietors. The theatre has been ſince pulled down and rebuilt upon a larger plan. On the ſouth ſide of Trinity church-yard is the cutler's hall, where buſineſs relative to the corporation is tranſacted. A building was purchaſed for that purpoſe in 1638; but the preſent ſtructure was erected in 1726. At the ſouth-eaſt corner of Trinity church-yard is the town hall, built in 1700, where the town's affairs are ſettled and the ſeſſions are held. Auguſt 31, 1786, a new market-place was opened, containing extenſive and commodious ſhambles and other conveniences, erected by his grace the duke of Norfolk, who has a very large and improving eſtate in and

almoſt

almoſt all round this town. At the ſouth end of the town is a conſiderable work for the purpoſe of making white and red lead, begun about the year 1758. And at the weſt end of the town was erected, about the ſame period, a ſilk-mill, which has ſince been converted into a cotton work, burnt down, February 9, 1792, but ſince rebuilt, and now in full employ. Here are alſo four public breweries. The firſt ſtage-coach from Sheffield was ſet up about 1760, and now there are five. The firſt hackney-coach was ſet up by Nelſon in 1793; of theſe there are not above ſix or eight yet employed.

MANUFACTURES.

It is probable, from the town ſeal and other circumſtances, that Sheffield has been the ſtaple for iron manufactures from the year 1297, eſpecially for falchion-heads, arrow-piles, and an ordinary ſort of knives called whittles. But in proceſs of time, other articles of more importance being invented, the cutlery trade was purſued in the town and neighbourhood, conſiſting of various ſorts of ſheers, knives, ſciſſars, ſcythes, and ſickles. About the year 1600 began to be manufactured an ordinary ſort of iron tobacco-boxes, and "a ſilly muſical inſtrument "called a jew's trump." In 1638, files and razors began to be made. In 1630, claſp or ſpring knives began to be manufactured with iron handles, which, in a ſhort time, were covered with horn, tortoiſe-ſhell, &c. Still, however, it appears that, for near a century ſucceeding, the Sheffield manufactures diſcovered more of induſtry than ingenuity. The workmen dared not exert their abilities in labour for fear of being overſtocked with goods. Their trade was inconſiderable, confined, and precarious. None preſumed to extend their traffic beyond the bounds of this iſland; and moſt were content to wait the coming of a caſual trader rather than to carry their goods, with much labour and expence, to an uncertain market. Old perſons ſtill remember that the produce

produce of the manufactory was conveyed weekly by pack-horſes to the metropolis. About fifty years ago, Mr. Joſeph Broadbent firſt opened an immediate trade with the continent. In 1751 the river Don was made navigable up to within three miles of the town, which greatly facilitated the conveyance of goods abroad. A ſtage-waggon was ſet up by Mr. Wright, which was ſoon ſucceeded by others. Maſter-manufacturers began to viſit London in ſearch of orders with good ſucceſs. Several factors now eſtabliſhed a correſpondence with various parts of the continent and engaged foreigners as clerks in their compting-houſes. The roads began to be greatly improved, and Britain and Ireland were thoroughly explored in ſearch of trade. The fairs in different parts of the kingdom annually decreaſed in their importance, becauſe ſhopkeepers could be eaſily ſupplied with goods at any time of the year. Buttons of plated metal had been made by Mr. T. Bolſover for a conſiderable time. But about 1758, a manufactory of this material was begun by Mr. Joſeph Hancock, an ingenious mechanic, comprehending a great variety of articles, ſuch as ſaucepans, tea-urns, coffee-pots, cups, tankards, candleſticks, &c. &c. Since that time this branch has been purſued by numerous companies to great advantage, and has contributed very conſiderably to promote the wealth and population of the town. The Sheffield trade in ſilver and plated goods was much aſſiſted by the eſtabliſhment of an aſſay-office in the town, in conſequence of acts of parliament paſſed in 1773 and 1784; before which period the manufacturers were obliged to ſend their goods to London to be aſſayed and marked.

POPULATION.

With reſpect to the population of Sheffield, it is not eaſy to form an accurate account from the pariſh regiſter, becauſe, though it ſeems to have

have been kept correctly, yet, as it includes four hamlets or diſtricts, excluſively of the townſhip of Sheffield, the town cannot be conſidered diſtinctly. The ſtate of population and its gradual advance *in the pariſh* may, however, be fully as worthy of attention as that of the town in particular. The regiſter commences in 1561.

	Marr.	Bapt.	Bur.
From 1561 to 1570 incluſive, -	234	1085	712
From 1571 to 1580 do. - -	275	955	721
From 1581 to 1590 do. - -	340	1245	959
From 1591 to 1600 do. - - -	459	1364	1323
From 1601 to 1610 do. - - -	417	1475	1049
From 1611 to 1620 do. - -	469	1699	1359
From 1621 to 1630 do. - - -	532	1884	1606
From 1631 to 1640 do. - -	564	2130	2194
From 1641 to 1650 do. - - -	410	2126	2276
From 1651 to 1660 do. - -	475	1698	1888
From 1661 to 1670 do. - - -	585	2086	2266
From 1671 to 1680 do. - -	537	2240	2387
From 1681 to 1690 do. - -	540	2595	2856
From 1691 to 1700 do. - -	688	2221	2856
From 1701 to 1710 do. - - -	942	3033	2613
From 1711 to 1720 do. - - -	991	3304	2765
From 1721 to 1730 do. - - -	1212	3874	3828
From 1731 to 1740 do. - -	1361	4635	3878
From 1741 to 1750 do. - - -	1584	5904	5232
From 1751 to 1760 do. - -	1833	7036	6270
From 1761 to 1770 do. - - -	2551	8885	7547
From 1771 to 1780 do. - -	2962	10,697	9898
From 1781 to 1790 do. - - -	3863	13,851	11,849
1791 - - - - -	453	1607	1047
1792 - - - -	471	1667	1246
1793 - - - - -	444	1732	1482
1794 - - - - -	402	1582	1473

The

The following is a ſtatement of the population of Sheffield at different periods.

Year.	Famil.	Souls.	Year.	Famil.	Souls.
1615	——	2207	1775	4704	——
1736	2152	9695	1785	5256	——
				Houſes.	
1755	2667	12,983	1788	5874	26,538
1768	3842	——	1789	6065	——
				287 empty.	

In 1732, according to Mr. Goſling's plan, there were thirty-two ſtreets in Sheffield. In 1771, according to Mr. Fairbank's plan, there appears to have been an addition of twenty-five ſtreets. In 1792, there appears to have been a farther addition of ſeventeen ſtreets. It is not eaſy to give any exact account of the preſent population of either the town or pariſh of Sheffield. In the year 1789 it was found by actual ſurvey of a few ſtreets only, indiſcriminately taken, that the proportion of inhabitants to a houſe was about four three-fourths. This would make the number of perſons in Sheffield leſs than 30,000 at that time. It is generally believed that this number is conſiderably ſhort of the fact, even farther back than that year; but conjecture commonly exceeds the reality. The town is certainly a healthy one; and if it be allowed that in Mancheſter and Liverpool one in twenty-ſeven or twenty-eight (perhaps now a much leſs number) die annually, one death annually among thirty perſons reſident in Sheffield is probably too great for the actual proportion; and comprehending the whole pariſh in the account, ſituated as it is in a hilly country, on a dry ſoil, and enjoying excellent air, it is conceived that not more than one in thirty

thirty-five can be ſuppoſed to die annually. The average of burials for the laſt four years will be found by the above ſtatement to amount to 1312. This number multiplied by thirty-five, gives the product of 45,920 for the population of the whole pariſh, without making any account of ſuch funerals among the quakers and other diſſenters as are never entered in the pariſh regiſter. There is the leſs impropriety in not regarding theſe, becauſe the diſſenters here, though numerous, are much in the habit of burying their dead in the church yards.

The ſoil about Sheffield is generally of a deep clay; and from the quantity of manure beſtowed on it, very rich. The duke of Norfolk, earl Fitzwilliam, and the counteſs of Bute, are the principal great proprietors; but there are a number of ſmall freeholders. In the neighbourhood moſt of the farms are ſmall, and the land is chiefly devoted to paſture and hay. Labourers obtain large wages, and the price of proviſions is high. There is a good deal of waſte land within a few miles of the town, and the country is rather bare of trees. The roads are generally bad, but more attention is now beginning to be paid to them than formerly. The climate is middling; the average of rain, thirty-three inches in a year, which is about a medium between that falling in Lancaſhire and on the eaſtern coaſt.

BARNESLEY,

COMMONLY called *Black Barneſley*, is the principal town of the wapentake of Staincroſs. It is a place of moderate ſize, ſituated among coal pits and iron-works, and carries on a conſiderable trade in wire, with ſome other branches of hard ware. It has alſo a manufac-

tory

tory of linen yarn and coarſe linen cloth, which is in a flouriſhing ſtate. It has a market on Wedneſdays, at which much corn and other proviſions are ſold. Its fairs are in February, May, and October. The farms around it are ſmall, and chiefly in tillage.

The church of Barneſley is a chapel under Silkeſton; the living in the gift of the archbiſhop of York.

HUDDERSFIELD.

WE begin our account of the cloathing country with this town, which is peculiarly the creation of the woollen manufactory, whereby it has been raiſed from an inconſiderable place, to a great degree of proſperity and population.

The pariſh of Huddersfield, ſituated in Agbridge hundred, is very extenſive, ſtretching from the river Calder on the north and north-eaſt, to the borders of Lancaſhire on the weſt. Its breadth is leſs conſiderable. It contains, beſides the townſhip of *Huddersfield*, thoſe of *Quarmby* with *Lindley*, *Longwood*, *Golcarr*, and part of *Scamanden*, of *Slaughthwaite*, and of *Marſden*. The church is a vicarage, in the gift of Sir John Ramſden; and has under it the chapels of *Dean-head*, and *Slaughthwaite*.

The town of Huddersfield, except two or three houſes, is entirely the property of Sir John Ramſden, who has for ſome years paſt granted building leaſes renewable every twenty years on payment of two years ground rent. He built a very good cloth hall ſome years ſince, and made

made a navigation from hence to the Calder, of which an account is given at p. 128. Within the townſhip there are ſeveral freeholders. The higheſt officer is a conſtable, who, with his deputy, is yearly choſen at the court leet held at Michaelmas at Almondſbury, the manor of which alſo belongs to Sir John Ramſden.

The markets of Huddersfield are very well ſupplied with beef, mutton, veal, and pork, which are expoſed for ſale in ſhambles built by the lord of the manor. The market-day is Tueſday, but mutton and veal may be had on other days at the butcher's ſhops. It is alſo tolerably ſupplied for a conſiderable part of the year with ſea-fiſh from the Yorkſhire coaſt. The fat cattle and ſheep are brought out of Lincolnſhire and the neighbouring counties, and generally bought at the fortnight fairs of Wakefield, which ſupply much of the weſtern part of Yorkſhire and the adjacent parts of Lancaſhire. Butter, eggs, and fowls, are not uſually ſold at the market croſs, but may ſometimes be bought in the neighbourhood. A moderate quantity of corn is brought to the market by the farmers round, and a larger quantity is brought by water from the more ſouthern counties, much of which is carried forwards into Lancaſhire.

There are ſmall quarterly fairs, at which ſome horſes and lean cattle are expoſed to ſale; but the principal fair for this purpoſe is on May 4.

The progreſs of population in this town will appear from the following extract from its regiſter:

Year.	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Year.	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.
1710	30	113	112	1730	48	178	149
1720	33	148	133	1740	41	196	100

Year.

Years.	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.	Years.	Marr.	Chriſt.	Bur.
1750	39	235	120	1790	113	377	267
1760	65	190	99	1791	140	381	270
1770	100	283	132	1792	119	395	274
1780	115	296	135				

The chapelry of *Slaughthwaite* in this pariſh, which equally partakes of the increaſed population from trade, has afforded the following liſt of births and burials for a ſpace of five years:

Year.	Chriſt.	Bur.
1784	124	53
1785	135	29
1786	140	49
1787	140	90
1788	153	37

From this and the preceding table a very favourable idea may be deduced of the healthineſs of this diſtrict, and the advantages it offers for the increaſe of the human ſpecies. Theſe chiefly proceed from the comparative healthineſs of a manufacture carried on in rural ſituations and at the workmen's own houſes; from the plenty of employ and high price of labour, encouraging to early matrimony; and from the warm cloathing, good fare, and abundant fuel, enjoyed by the induſtrious in this place.

The trade of Huddersfield comprizes a large ſhare of the cloathing trade of Yorkſhire, particularly the finer articles of it. Theſe conſiſt of broad and narrow cloths; fancy cloths, as elaſtics, beaverettes, &c. alſo honleys, and kerſeymeres. The qualities run from 10*d.* to 8*s.* per yard, narrows; and broads as high as the ſuperfines in the weſt of England. The fineſt broads in Yorkſhire are made at Saddleworth, the

the manufactures of which place are included in this diſtrict, being all ſold at Huddersfield market. Theſe goods are made from all ſorts of ſhort Engliſh wool, from £.6 to £.35 per pack; and from Spaniſh wool. The loweſt priced Engliſh wool is chiefly ſhort wool ſorted from large fleeces of combing wool bought in Lincolnſhire, Leiceſterſhire, Nottinghamſhire, and the neighbouring counties. The fineſt Engliſh wool is from ſmall fleeces in Herefordſhire, Shropſhire, and other weſtern counties; and alſo from Kent, Suſſex, and their neighbourhood.

The markets for theſe goods are almoſt wholly Great Britain and Ireland, and America. They are bought up by the merchants of the cloathing towns in a ſtate ready for cropping, dreſſing, and finiſhing, and are then ſent to London and the country towns, or exported from Liverpool or Hull. All the branches of trade here may be conſidered as in a thriving ſtate, making allowance for the temporary check of the war, which, however, has been leſs than might have been ſuppoſed, as appears from the annual accounts of cloths ſtamped and regiſtered at Pontefract. It is to be conſidered, too, that kerſeymeres and all other goods carried to the market at Huddersfield which are white and quilled, are not regiſtered; and theſe ſorts are on the increaſe.

The new canal planned from Huddersfield to join the Mancheſter and Aſhton canal, which is expected to be of great advantage to its trade, has been mentioned at p. 131.

The principal gentlemens' ſeats near Huddersfield are, *Whitley-hall*, the ſeat of Richard Henry Beaumont, Eſq. whoſe family poſſeſſed this place in the reign of Henry II.; *Kirklees-hall*, belonging to Sir George Armytage, Bart.; *Fixby-hall* and park, the ſeat of Thomas Thornhill,

hill, Eſq.; and *Mills-bridge* to William Radcliffe, Eſq. To the weſt of Almondſbury is *Caſtle-hill*, an old fortreſs, ſuppoſed by ſome to be the Roman *Cambodunum*; but Mr. Watſon conceives it rather to be a Saxon remain, and that *Slack*, to the north of Huddersfield, was Cambodunum.

SADDLEWORTH.

THIS place, though in the county of York, is within the pariſh of Rochdale; the cauſe of which appears by an old book belonging to Whalley Abbey, to have been an application from Hugo de Stapleton, lord of the manor of Saddleworth, to Hugh, earl of Cheſter, for leave to erect a chapel for the uſe of his tenants; to his permiſſion for which the earl made it a condition that the chapel ſhould be annexed to the abbey of Whalley. On the diſſolution of monaſteries this was annexed to Rochdale. The miniſter of its church or chapel is now put in by the vicar of Rochdale, and the tithes go along with thoſe of that pariſh.

Saddleworth is a large valley, about ſeven miles long, and five acroſs in the broadeſt part, ſituated in an angle of Yorkſhire between Lancaſhire and the north-eaſtern projection of Cheſhire. It is a wild bleak region, of which a very ſmall part is under cultivation; but induſtry has accumulated in it a large number of inhabitants, who gain a comfortable ſubſiſtence by the manufactory of woollen cloth, for which the place is peculiarly famous. The diſtrict is divided into four quarters, called meres, viz. *Quick-mere*, *Lord's-mere*, *Shaw-mere*, and *Friar-mere*. The latter was once an eſtate belonging to the Black Friars, who had a houſe or grange there, near Delph. The manor of Saddleworth was ſold by its old lords, the Stapletons, to the Ramſdens; by them,

to

to the Farrers and the Holts of Aſhworth. The Holts ſold their ſhare to the tenants.

Perhaps a more remarkable inſtance of riſe in the value of an eſtate cannot be produced than the following:—On Auguſt 9th, 1654, William Farrer, Eſq. of Ewood, near Halifax, purchaſed a ſhare of the lands of Saddleworth from William Ramſden, Eſq. of Longley-hall, for £.2950. This, in 1775, brought in a rent of £.1500 per annum to James Farrer, Eſq. of Bamborough Grange. In 1780 he ſold off to the value of £.10,000, and by advance in the remainder kept up the ſame rent as before. At his death in 1791 the rent was about £.2000, much of it in leaſes for lives; and the eſtate being ſold in ſmall parcels to the occupiers and others, it produced nearly £.70,000; which, added to the value of that before ſold off, makes a product of £.80,000 from leſs than £.3000 in the ſpace of 137 years.

There are now about 400 freeholders in Saddleworth; and it is ſtated to contain 1822 families, and 10,471 perſons. As this is a much larger proportion to a family than found elſewhere, it is probable ſome miſtake muſt have been made in the ſtatement. At the church, and its three chapels, in Dob's-croſs, Lidgate, and Friar-mere, together with a diſſenting meeting-houſe at Delph, there were in

1791,	91 marriages,	358 chriſtenings,	292 burials,
1792,	73 do. -	456 do. - -	267 do.

A remarkable proof of the healthineſs of the place appears in the following fact: A benefit ſociety eſtabliſhed in 1772 conſiſts of upwards of 300 members, ſome of whom were upwards of fifty years old

at

at their entrance. Only twelve members had been buried out of it to the beginning of 1794.

The trade of Saddleworth has increaſed in a very rapid degree. In 1740 there were not more than about 8640 cloths manufactured here, and thoſe of a very coarſe kind. In 1791 the number was 35,639; and in 1792, 36,637, which at an average were worth £.7 each in an unfiniſhed ſtate, as ſold at Huddersfield market, nearly double the value of cloths made in 1740. For the manufacturing of theſe cloths are uſed 1,480,000 pounds of wool. The number of looms is about 2000; and there are ſeventy-ſix mills, turned by the Tame and the ſmall ſtreams falling into it. Many of the ſuperfine broads made here vie with thoſe of the Weſt of England.

The land under cultivation in this diſtrict lets in ſmall farms from 20*s.* to 40*s.* per acre. Some meadow land bring five or ſix pounds.

Lime is at preſent brought by land carriage from the Peak of Derbyſhire, and ſells at about 30*s.* per ton. Coals are got from the neighbourhood of Oldham, and are about 15*s.* per ton. The houſes are all built of ſtone, which is in great plenty; but timber comes high, being brought from Hull or Liverpool, and undergoing an expenſive land carriage; hence houſe-rents are dear. This hindrance to improvement it is hoped will be removed in a great meaſure by the new Huddersfield and Aſhton canal, which will paſs through the midſt of Saddleworth.

Caſtle Shaw in Saddleworth, a remain of an ancient fortification, of which a plan is given at p. 471, is ſuppoſed by Mr. Whitaker to have been a fortreſs of the primeval Britons, which he thinks is pretty plainly evinced

evinced by the few relics which have been accidentally diſcovered at it. Within the area of the caſtle, extended as it appears to have been, from the preſent eminence of the ground, and the appellation of the Huſteads and Caſtle-hills, and containing ſeveral ſtatute acres in compaſs, have been dug up thoſe round beads of the Britons, which have equally been diſcovered in the Britiſh barrows upon Saliſbury plain. And within two or three fields from the caſtle was lately diſcovered a brazen celt. Mr. Whitaker alſo ſuppoſes that a caſtrum at Caſtle Shaw, ſeated at the foot of Stanedge, within two furlongs of the Roman road to Slack, was a Roman ſtation.

In this neighbourhood are the much frequented and celebrated rocks of *Greenfield*, as well as ſeveral druidical remains, a rocking ſtone, &c. of which, would our limits allow it, a particular deſcription ſhould be given. Mr. Samuel Bottomley has written a poem deſcriptive of this romantic and almoſt uninhabited part of the country.

HALIFAX.

Halifax, a town of ancient note for the woollen manufacture, is ſituated not far from the river Calder, in the wapentake of Morley, and within a pariſh or vicarage of the ſame name, which is one of the moſt extenſive in the kingdom, conſiſting of twenty-ſix townſhips or hamlets. The pariſh is ſuppoſed to be fully equal in ſize to the whole county of Rutland, being about ſeventeen miles in length, and eleven in breadth; and hence, of courſe, muſt originally have een a waſte and barren tract, with a very light population. It is bounded by the pariſhes of Whalley and Rochdale in Lancaſhire on the weſt, by that of Bradford on the north, of Birſtall on the eaſt, and of Huddersfield on the ſouth.

The

The era of the introduction of trade into this remote diſtrict is not very accurately known; but there is the authority of a MS. paper by Mr. John Waterhouſe, once lord of the manor here, to prove, that at the time of his birth, in 1443, there were no more than thirteen houſes in Halifax; which number in 120 years was increaſed to 520 houſeholders. This probably muſt therefore have been the period during which trade was introduced; accordingly, it has already been obſerved under the head of Mancheſter, that in 1520 one of the three great clothiers of the north of England lived at Halifax. Wright, in his hiſtory of Halifax, affirms that the woollen trade was brought hither from Rippon, for the ſake of the advantage of coals and water; and there is a tradition that it firſt came into Yorkſhire out of Devonſhire, where it had been ſettled by ſome workmen from Flanders. About 17th Edward IV. two fulling mills were erected in Raſtrick within this pariſh; but the reign of Henry VII. has by ſome been mentioned as the principal period of the introduction of the woollen manufacture in theſe parts.

An act, paſſed in the reign of Philip and Mary, in order to prevent the engroſſing of wool by perſons of large capitals, gives a lively picture of the ſtate of this country. It recites, "that the pariſh of Halifax "being planted in the great waſte and moores, where the fertility of "the ground is not apt to bring forth any corne nor good graſſe, but "in rare places, and by exceeding and great induſtry of the inhabi-"tants; and the ſame inhabitants altogether doe live by cloth making; "and the greater part of them neither getteth corne, nor is able to "keepe a horſe to carry wools, nor yet to buy much wool at once, "but hath ever beene uſed only to repaire to the towne of Hali-"fax, &c. and there to buy upon the wool driver, ſome a ſtone, ſome "two,

" two, and ſome three and foure, according to their ability, and to " carry the ſame to their houſes, ſome three, foure, five, and ſix miles " off, upon their heads and backes, and ſo to make and convert the " ſame either into yarne or cloth, and to ſell the ſame, and ſo to buy " more wool of the wool driver, by means of which induſtry, the " barren grounds in thoſe parts be now much inhabited, and above " 500 houſeholds there newly increaſed within theſe forty yeares paſt, " &c. &c."

This account exhibits a manufacture in its early ſtate, but in a progreſſive one: and from lord Clarendon's hiſtory we find, that Halifax, with Leeds and Bradford, were called, in the year 1642, " three very " populous and rich towns depending wholly on clothiers." As to the progreſſion of population, it is ſaid in the certificate of the archbiſhop of York and others, 2d Edward VI. (1548) "that in the pariſh " of Halifax the number of houſlyng people is 8500;" and Camden, when he travelled in theſe parts about 1580, was informed that the number of inhabitants of this pariſh was about 12,000. Archbiſhop Grindall, in his letter to queen Elizabeth during the northern rebellion, alſo ſays, that the pariſh of Halifax was ready to bring into the field for her ſervice 3 or 4000 able men. And thoſe who were raiſed for the parliament, to whoſe cauſe Halifax adhered during the civil wars, were numerous enough to be termed in the town regiſter, the *Halifax army*. We ſhall purſue this ſubject further hereafter.

The manor of Halifax is parcel of the very extenſive one of Wakefield. Great part of it was anciently called the liberty of the foreſt of Sowerbyſhire, or of Hardwick. Within this liberty a very ſingular cuſtom long prevailed, which was that called *Halifax gibbet-law*. It conſiſted

fiſted in a ſummary mode of trying and capitally puniſhing felons (apparently thieves alone) taken within the liberties with the goods found about them, or upon their own confeſſion; and the mode of execution was beheading by means of an inſtrument called a gibbet, conſiſting of two upright pieces of timber, joined by a tranſverſe piece, within which was a ſquare block of wood ſliding in grooves, worked in the uprights, and armed below with an iron axe. This being drawn up, was let fall ſuddenly, either by pulling out a pin, or cutting a cord that ſupported it; and thus the malefactor's head was at once ſtruck off. An engine exactly of the ſame kind was for ſome time in uſe at Edinburgh under the name of *the maiden*; but which was the original, which the copy, is diſputed. It has lately been revived with improvements in France, in the too-famous *guillotine*; which appears, however, to have been an original invention of the perſon whoſe name it bears. Indeed, the pile-driving engine would readily ſuggeſt the idea of it. With reſpect to this in Halifax, it ſeems to have been pretty freely uſed, eſpecially after it became a manufacturing town, againſt the robbers of tenter grounds. The laſt executions by it were in 1650. The practice was then put a ſtop to, the bailiff being threatened with a proſecution if he ſhould repeat it. Forty-nine perſons had ſuffered by it from the firſt entries in the regiſter in the year 1541. A raiſed platform of ſtone on which the gibbet was placed is ſtill remaining in Gibbet-lane.

Halifax is ſeated in a bottom, on a gentle deſcent from eaſt to weſt, in which direction its greateſt length extends. Its ſtreets are narrow and irregular; the houſes in general built of ſtone, and ſome of the more modern ones, large and handſome. The church is a large Gothic ſtructure, of good appearance, at the eaſt end of the town. It has undergone

undergone various alterations and additions at different times. It has a handſome organ, and a tower ſteeple with eight muſical bells. Under the chancel are large rooms upon a level with the lower part of the church-yard, in one of which is a library. Within the church are two chapels, one of them called the Rokeſby chapel, in which were buried the heart and bowels of Dr. William Rokeſby, vicar of Halifax, and laſtly, archbiſhop of Dublin. The vicarage is in the gift of the crown. It has under it twelve chapels in different parts of the pariſh. There are alſo a number of diſſenting places of worſhip within the town, and the pariſh. There is a free-ſchool in Skircoat, founded by queen Elizabeth; and alms-houſes, and blue-coat hoſpital.

Halifax has a fine piece hall, the area of which is 300 feet by 240. Part of it is three ſtories high, the remainder two ſtories; and it contains 315 different rooms in which the manufactured goods of the town and neighbourhood are expoſed to ſale. It coſt £.12,000; and the value of goods at one time in it is reckoned never leſs than £.50,000. It opens every Saturday at ten o'clock, and ſhuts at twelve, a bell ringing at both times. There are other markets on Tueſdays and Thurſdays; but Halifax is not a market-town by charter, but by preſcription.

We ſhall now proceed to a more particular account of the trade and population of this place in later times.

The ſhalloon trade was introduced here about the beginning of this century; and what are called figured ſtuffs and drawboys, within the latter half of it. Formerly much bone-lace was made in Halifax; but this trade fell into a low ſtate, till it was again revived, ſo as to become no inconſiderable branch. Frame-work knitting was introduced in

1724,

1724, and a good deal of work has been done in it. For ſome time paſt, the ſtaple manufactory of the place and neighbourhood has been tammies, ſhalloons, drawboys, known beſt under the title of figured laſtings and amens, ſuperfine quilled everlaſtings, double ruſſels, ſerges de Niſme & du Rome. Theſe are all made from combing wool. They are brought in the unfiniſhed ſtate to the piece hall, where the merchants attend every Saturday to purchaſe. Formerly the greateſt part of theſe goods were bought by the London merchants for the ſupply of foreigners; but, for the laſt fifteen or twenty years, dye-houſes and other conveniences have been erected by merchants who finiſh the goods upon the ſpot, and are thereby able to underſell the London merchant. Of theſe goods very few in proportion are ſold inland. Large quantities go to all the European continent, of which thoſe ſent to Cadiz are chiefly exported to Spaniſh America. Many ſhalloons go by land to London for the Turkey trade.

There is, beſides, a very conſiderable manufactory of kerſeys, and half-thicks, alſo of Bockings, and baize, principally in the hands of merchants of property in the neighbourhood of Sowerby, and made in the valley from Sowerby-bridge up to Ripponden, and higher. The whole of the Britiſh navy is cloathed from this ſource. Large quantities are alſo, in time of peace, ſent to Holland, and ſome to America.

But the moſt promiſing branch of manufactory is that of cloth and coatings, which has been introduced within theſe few years by a few perſons of enterprize, who have, at vaſt expenſe, erected mills on the Calder, and other ſmaller ſtreams, the falls of water in this uneven country being very favourable for that purpoſe. The ſucceſs of theſe factories has been ſuch as to excite the jealouſy of the Leeds merchants, who are accuſtomed to buy the ſame articles from the lower manufacturers at their cloth

cloth hall; and ſo aware were they of the danger of competition, that in 1794 a deputation was ſent from thence to petition for an act to prevent any merchant from becoming a manufacturer; but on conſideration the idea was dropt. It is evident that merchants concentrating in themſelves the whole proceſs of a manufactory, from the raw wool to the finiſhed piece, have an advantage over thoſe who permit the article to paſs through a variety of hands, each of which takes a profit. This ſome perſons in the vicinity of Leeds now ſee, and are adopting the ſame plan. As machinery is now brought to great perfection, numbers of the ſmall manufacturers, who made perhaps a piece in a week, find it more advantageous to work at thoſe factories, where their ingenuity is well rewarded. And it appears evident, that the ſame number of hands regularly employed, will do more work by one third than when they depend on caſual employ. One day in ſix is always loſt to the head of a family by attending the mill, and another by attendance at the market.

It may not be amiſs to remark an abſurd cuſtom prevailing in the manufactory of broad cloths, which is that of the merchants allowing one yard in every twenty as an indemnity for the length of the cloth being ſtretched beyond its length from the mill; which has the bad effect of tempting the merchant to ſtretch the cloth ſtill more in order to gain length, though the quality is injured by it. This practice has thrown the Yorkſhire cloth into diſrepute, both at home and abroad, and preference has been given to the Glouceſterſhire fabrics, eſpecially by the Eaſt India Company. It is, however, notorious, that this great trading body, who are ſaid to purchaſe cloths to the amount of £.200,000 per annum, are groſſly impoſed upon, as the cloths they buy in the Weſt, which meaſure forty-eight yards in the white, do not when dyed meaſure,

ſure, on the average, ſo much as forty-five yards. An honeſt and intelligent manufacturer would be able to prove this fact to them, *that all cloth manufactured honeſtly will be as long when dyed and finiſhed, as in the white.*

In the year 1764 an exact account was taken of the number of families in the vicarage of Halifax, of which the following is a tranſcript:

In	Halifax	1272 Families	In	Eland	242 Families.
	Skircoat	251 do.		Greetland	118 do.
	Warley	487 do.		Old Lindley	41 do.
	Midgeley	217 do.		Stainland	197 do.
	Sowerby	587 do.		Barkiſland	252 do.
	Ovenden	597 do.		Soyland	256 do.
	Northowram	630 do.		Ruſhworth	130 do.
	Shelf	180 do.		Norland	180 do.
	Hipperholm	352 do.		Stansfield	464 do.
	Southowram	448 do.		Langfield	137 do.
	Brighouſe	74 do.		Erringden	177 do.
	Raſtrick	179 do.		Heptonſtall	352 do.
	Fixby	55 do.		Wadſworth	388 do.
				Total	8263

On a calculation of $4\frac{1}{3}$ perſons to a family, this will give the number of 35,806 inhabitants. The increaſe ſince that time muſt have been very great, but no new enumeration has taken place. However, we have

have been favoured with an extract of the lists of mortality given into the stamp office for two late years, as follows:

In the whole parish of Halifax, from October 2, 1791, to October 1, 1792, - - 588 marriages; 2246 births; 1273 burials.

In the same, from October 2, 1792, to October 1, 1793, 524 marriages; 2350 births; 1233 burials.

In this list, the births of those who died unregistered, and the burials of paupers, are not included. From the best deduction we can make from these facts, a population of between fifty-five and sixty thousand individuals may be inferred.

Halifax enjoys the benefit of water-carriage to Hull along the Calder, from Sowerby-bridge in its vicinity, the act of parliament for which navigation passed in 1757. Its communications by water will be much extended by the Rochdale canal, now cutting, which will connect the Calder at Sowerby-bridge with the duke of Bridgewater's canal at Manchester, and consequently include the neighbourhood of Halifax in the great system of inland navigation.

The roads about Halifax are generally bad. The farms are mostly small, and occupied by manufacturers for the conveniency of keeping a cow or two, and horses for conveyance of their goods. The land is chiefly in meadow pasture grass; and the cultivation of the ground is only regarded as a secondary object with the occupiers. Coals are found in various parts of the parish.

Halifax has given birth to ſeveral perſons of eminence, among whom it is ſufficient to mention the celebrated *archbiſhop Tillotſon*; *Dr. Henry Brigg*, geometrical profeſſor at Greſham college, and Savilian profeſſor at Oxford; and *Dr. David Hartley*, known among the faculty as the introducer of Mrs. Stephens's medicines for the ſtone, but much more known of late years on account of his great work entitled, "Obſervations on Man," founded on the doctrine of aſſociation, the ſyſtem of which has been adopted with the higheſt applauſe by Dr. Prieſtley and other ingenious writers.

The hiſtory and antiquities of this pariſh have been treated of in a large quarto volume by the late learned and Rev. John Watſon, who long reſided here, and died rector of Stockport. From his work ſeveral of the materials of the preceding account have been taken.

Near *Horley-green*, a mile and a quarter to the north-eaſt of Halifax, a mineral water has been diſcovered, on which a pamphlet has been written by Dr. Garnet, of Harrowgate. It appears from his experiments to contain a large proportion of vitriolated iron, beſides alum, ſelenite, and ochre; and is reckoned by him the ſtrongeſt chalybeate water known.

BRADFORD.

THIS is a market town ſituated in Morley wapentake, about half way between Halifax and Leeds. It belonged originally to John of Gaunt. Its market is on Monday, and it has fairs in March and June. The church is a vicarage, and has under it the chapels of Thornton, Wibſey,

Wibſey, and Haworth. Beſides the pariſh church, there are places of worſhip for diſſenters of all denominations, who are numerous. The methodiſts have a large octagon chapel here.

Bradford is a conſiderable and populous town, well built of free-ſtone got from quarries in its neighbourhood, and is inhabited chiefly by manufacturers, many of whom are opulent. The articles it chiefly deals in are tammies and calamancoes, manufactured in its neighbourhood, and ſold in its market, in the ſame manner as the Halifax ſtuffs, and exported with them. This trade has undergone a temporary diminution from the war; but the return of peace and free exportation would certainly make it revive again. A branch of the Leeds and Liverpool canal was extended to Bradford ſeveral years ſince.

The land about Bradford is poſſeſſed by ſmall proprietors, and occupied by ſmall farmers and manufacturers. It is almoſt all in graſs, and cows are the principal ſtock kept. Where it is in tillage, oats are the moſt common crop. The country is all in encloſure.

In the pariſh a very capital iron foundry and forge has lately been eſtabliſhed, which has the advantage of coal and iron ore got on the ſpot, and is a very profitable concern. Coals abound in this neighbourhood, and large quantities are ſent by means of the canal into Craven, from whence lime-ſtone is brought in return.

LEEDS.

THOUGH the woollen trade in Yorkſhire has properly no one common centre, yet the town of Leeds has latterly been always reckoned, in opulence and population, the principal place of the Weſt-Riding; and it bears a high rank among our manufacturing towns.

Leeds is an ancient place, its name appearing in Doomſday-book, under the reigns of Edward the Confeſſor and William the Conqueror. It had a ſtrong caſtle, probably built by Ilbert de Lacy, which was beſieged by king Stephen in 1139; and here the unfortunate Richard II. was confined about the year 1399. No veſtiges of this fortreſs remain; but its ſite is ſaid to have been on a place now called Mill-hill.

Leeds has long been diſtinguiſhed as one of the cloathing towns of Yorkſhire, though its pre-eminence does not ſeem to have been of very old date. Leland ſays it is "a pretty market town, ſubſiſted chiefly "by cloathing, reaſonably well builded, and as large as Bradford, "but not ſo *quick* as it." Its growth, however, probably ſoon came to be conſiderable, as it was incorporated by Charles I. At the commencement of the troubles of that reign it was held for the king by Sir William Saville; but after a ſharp action, its works were ſtormed by a force which marched out of Bradford under Sir Thomas Fairfax. A ſecond charter was given to it in the 13th of Charles II. under which it is now governed. It is not a parliamentary borough.

The pariſh of Leeds is ſituated on the river Aire, which runs nearly through the middle of it in a direction from weſt to eaſt. It extends, accord-

according to Tuke's ſurvey, ſeven miles three furlongs from north to ſouth, and ſeven miles two and half furlongs from eaſt to weſt, and is thirty miles one furlong in circumference. It is divided into ten townſhips, excluſive of the townſhip of Leeds, which includes the town properly ſo called, and a conſiderable village at a mile's diſtance. An actual enumeration of the inhabitants of the townſhip was taken in 1775, of which the following is the reſult: families, 4099; huſbands, 3121; wives, 3193; widowers, 347; widows, 793; bachelors, 861; ſpinſters, 1330; males under twenty-one, 3712; females ditto, 3760; total, 17,117: number to each family, $4\frac{1}{5}$. It is to be obſerved, that in the loweſt rank of people there is often more than one family to a houſe. In that year there were 1140 baptiſms, and 781 burials.

The living is a vicarage, in the gift of twenty-ſeven truſtees, who, previous to a preſentation, are required to complete their number by the votes of a majority of the ſurvivors. The profits of the living ariſe entirely from ſmall tithes and Eaſter dues, and are ſaid to be ſhort of £.400 per annum, though they would certainly be much more if the dues were rigorouſly exacted. Beſides the pariſh church, there are in the town three other churches: two of theſe are ſupported by handſome endowments of land, and are in the gift of truſtees; the other, lately erected, by the ſale and rent of pews, and after two preſentations, is to be in the gift of the vicar. Eight of the ten townſhips have an epiſcopal endowed chapel of eaſe, in the gift of the vicar, and are upon an average worth about £.100 per annum each. There are alſo in the town ſeven diſſenting-meeting houſes, viz. two Preſbyterian, two Independant, two Baptiſt, and one Quaker's, excluſive of a large chapel belonging to the Weſtley methodiſts, and of another where the ſervice

of

of the church of England is read by two unordained preachers, educated at the expence of the late counteſs of Huntingdon.

The pariſh is governed by a corporation, conſiſting of a mayor, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four common council, who fill up the vacancies in their body, and annually elect the mayor from the aldermen by a majority of votes. As there are no freemen, every inhabitant is eligible to ſerve in the corporation, and in return is not liable to be ſummoned to ſerve upon any jury out of the pariſh.

The market days are Tueſday and Saturday for mixed cloths, that is, cloths made of dyed wool; and Tueſday only, for white cloths. The mixed cloths in the laſt century were expoſed for ſale on the battlements of the bridge over the Aire, and as the manufactory increaſed, were removed to the large ſtreet called Briggate, ſubject to the inconvenience of bad weather, and of being ſtored in adjoining cellars from one market day to another. The white cloths were ſold in a room. Each of them is now depoſited in a ſeparate covered hall, erected for the purpoſe, where they remain without diſturbance till ſold.

The mixed cloth hall was erected at the expence of the manufacturers in 1758. It is a quadrangular building, encloſing an open area. The building is 127½ yards in length, and ſixty-ſix in breadth; and is divided into ſix covered ſtreets, each of which contains two rows of ſtands, the freehold property of ſeparate manufacturers. Each ſtand is twenty-two inches in front, and the whole number is 1770; but as about twenty individuals are in poſſeſſion of two ſtands each, the number of maſter manufacturers of mixed cloth, proprietors of the hall, muſt not be eſtimated at more than 1750. Theſe have all ſerved a regular

gular apprenticeſhip to the making of coloured cloth, which is an indiſpenſable condition of their admiſſion into the hall. Another ſmall hall has lately been erected for the accommodation of irregulars, and near 100 ſtands are already let. Each ſtand originally coſt the proprietor 3*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, but they are now worth 5*l.* 10*s.*

The preſent white cloth hall was built in 1775. It is a quadrangle like the other, ninety-nine yards in length, and ſeventy in breadth, and is divided into five ſtreets, each with a double row of ſtands, the number of which is 1210; but there are generally about forty perſons who have two ſtands each. There are ſuppoſed to be about 200 mixed, and more than 100 white cloth manufacturers, of an inferior deſcription, who have ſerved a regular apprenticeſhip, but having no property in the halls, pay a fixed fee for every piece of cloth they expoſe to ſale.

The whole number of maſter broad-cloth manufacturers, in the Weſt-Riding of Yorkſhire is about 3240. The mixed cloth manufacturers reſide partly in the villages belonging to the pariſh of Leeds; but chiefly at Morley, Guilderſome, Adwalton, Driglington, Pudſey, Farſley, Calverley, Eccleſhal, Idle, Baildon, Yeadon, Guiſely, Rawdon, and Horsforth, in or bordering upon the vale of Aire, chiefly weſt of Leeds; and at Batley, Dewſbury, Oſſet, Horbury, and Kirkburton, weſt of Wakefield, in or near the vale of Calder. Not a ſingle manufacturer is to be found more than one mile eaſt, or two north, of Leeds; nor are there many in the town of Leeds, and thoſe only in the outſkirts.

The white cloth is manufactured chiefly at Alverthorpe, Oſſet, Kirkheaton, Dewſbury, Batley, Birſtal, Hopton, Mirfield, Archet, Clackheaton,

heaton, Littletown, Bowling, and Shipley; a tract of country forming an oblique belt acroſs the hills that ſeparate the vale of Calder from the vale of Aire, beginning about a mile weſt of Wakefield, leaving Huddersfield and Bradford a little to the left, terminating at Shipley on the Aire, and not coming within leſs than about ſix miles of Leeds on the right. The diſtricts of the white and coloured cloth manufactory are generally diſtinct, but are a little intermixed at the ſouth-eaſt and north-weſt extremities.

The cloths are ſold in their reſpective halls rough as they come from the fulling mills. They are finiſhed by the merchants, who employ dreſſers, dyers, &c. for that purpoſe; theſe, with dryſalters, ſhopkeepers, and the different kind of handicraftſmen common to every town, compoſe the bulk of the inhabitants of Leeds. The diſperſed ſtate of the manufacturers in villages and ſingle houſes over the whole face of the country, is highly favourable to their morals and happineſs. They are generally men of ſmall capitals, and often annex a ſmall farm to their other buſineſs; great numbers of the reſt have a field or two to ſupport a horſe and a cow, and are for the moſt part bleſſed with the comforts, without the ſuperfluities, of life.

The markets of Leeds are well ſupplied with all kinds of proviſion, partly from the neighbouring agricultural diſtrict to the eaſt, and partly from a diſtance up the Aire. The whole country from Leeds weſtward into Lancaſhire, does not produce grain or feed cattle ſufficient to ſupply one-fifth of the inhabitants.

The medium price of the beſt beef is from fivepence to ſixpence per pound; mutton and veal fourpence halfpenny; pork, ſixpence: upon

upon an average, about a halfpenny a pound dearer than York, and as much cheaper than Mancheſter.

Leeds has a general infirmary, built by ſubſcription in 1768, and well attended and ſupported. Alſo an excellent workhouſe, an hoſpital, alms-houſes, charity ſchools, and other inſtitutions belonging to a great town. It is built of brick, and contains many large and handſome modern houſes. From the beginning of the century Leeds has enjoyed the benefit of water-carriage by means of the river Aire, which has been improved by ſucceſſive acts, the laſt of which, authorizing a canal from the lower part of the Aire to the Ouſe at Selby, paſſed in 1774.

Its population has kept pace with the general increaſe of the cloathing trade, as will appear from the following extract from the bills of mortality:

An account of the births and burials in the townſhip of Leeds from 1763 to 1794, including proteſtant diſſenters of all denominations.

Year.	Births.	Bur.	Year.	Births.	Bur.
1764	553	445	1773	699	660
1765	576	459	1774	630	478
1766	584	533	1775	705	574
1767	557	639	1776	712	475
1768	552	560	1777	710	634
1769	637	478	1778	781	656
1770	621	587	1779	709	686
1771	689	533	1780	742	591
1772	650	544	1781	738	673

Year.

Year.	Bir.	Bur.	Year.	Bir.	Bur.
1782	741	600	1788	933	784
1783	725	682	1789	993	671
1784	830	608	1790	1139	969
1785	860	727	1791	1142	688
1786	940	674	1792	1171	929
1787	895	712	1793	1190	1129

Number of houſes in the year 1793, counted from the workhouſe book, where all that are inhabited are inſerted, 6691.

The ſoil of the pariſh of Leeds is a coarſe, ſtrong clay, ſometimes covering a finer ſtratum, which is made into pipes, and an inferior kind of pottery, in the neighbourhood. Its northern border is ſandy, extending nearly to the ridge which ſeparates Airedale from Wharfdale, and is a proceſs from the great line of hills that form the back bone of the north of England. The higher part of it is incapable of cultivation. That part of the pariſh which lies ſouth of the Aire abounds in coal; and to the cheapneſs of this indiſpenſable mineral, the flouriſhing ſtate of the manufactory is to be attributed. It is delivered at the coal ſtaith in the town, at 13*s.* per waggon load. The waggon is ſuppoſed to contain twenty-four corves, and the weight of a corve is near two hundred weight and a half.

There are in the pariſh ſeveral quarries of an argillaceous ſchiſt, which ſupply the neighbourhood and the country down the river with ſlates and flag-ſtones for paving. On the north-eaſt border begins a bed of imperfect granite, or moor-ſtone, of the ſame kind as that on the eaſt moor in Derbyſhire, which runs to the Chevin near Otley, and forms the

the whole ridge of Romald's-moor as far as Skipton, where the lime-ſtone commences. On each ſide, as you approach the level of the rivers Aire and Wharfe, the argillaceous ſchiſt occurs, which is evidently a ſtratum incumbent on the granite. The ſtone on the ſouth of the Aire is entirely argillaceous ſchiſt, as probably is generally the caſe where coal is found. The land in the greater part of the pariſh is extremely rich, and on account of the plenty of manure and the populouſneſs of the country, is of courſe in a high ſtate of cultivation.

Beſides the ſmaller potteries which work up the lower ſtratum of clay, there is a very conſiderable one for pottery of a finer kind, the proprietors of which, on account of the cheapneſs of coal, find it worth their while to bring pot clay and flints from the weſt and ſouth of England, and export large quantities of goods to Holland, Germany, Ruſſia, &c.

There are alſo in the town two carpet manufactories; and a large work has lately been erected for ſpinning flax by machinery.

On the river Aire and the ſtreams that fall into it, there are numerous mills for grinding corn, dyer's-wood, rape ſeed, &c. and alſo for fulling cloth, and turning machinery to ſpin and card wool. Several cotton mills have been lately erected, but theſe are worked chiefly by the means of ſteam engines.

The only remarkable antiquity in the pariſh is *Kirkſtall Abbey*, of which an account may be ſeen in Thoreſby's Ducatus Leodienſis. It was a religious houſe of the Ciſtercian order, founded in 1157 by Henry de

de Lacy, and ſituated in a beautiful vale watered by the Aire. There are large remains of the church, a fine gothic building.

At *Fulneck*, near *Pudſey*, between Leeds and Bradford, is a conſiderable ſettlement of the Moravian brethren, which was begun about 1748, principally by ſome Germans, but is now almoſt entirely peopled by Engliſh, moſt of them natives of the place. The chief buildings are the *hall*, containing a chapel, a ſchool for girls, and miniſter's dwelling: a large ſchool-houſe for boys; a houſe for ſingle men; another for ſingle women; and another for widows; ſituated upon a terrace of conſiderable length, and commanding a fine proſpect. Theſe, with the houſes for ſeparate families, form a conſiderable village, the number inhabiting which is from four to five hundred. Various branches of trade are carried on in it, as ſhoemakers, taylors, bakers, &c.; but the chief employment is the woollen manufacture. The ſingle women are famous for their ſkill in working muſlins with the needle and tambour, and their labours ſell at a high price. The vocal and inſtrumental muſic of the ſettlement is reckoned very excellent.

WAKEFIELD.

NEARLY ſouth of Leeds, at the diſtance of eight miles, ſtands the town of Wakefield, on the ſide of a hill declining to the Calder. It is an ancient town, and once belonged to the Warrens, earls of Surry. From Leland's deſcription, it ſeems in his time to have been the principal town in theſe parts, having then a fair large church and a chapel of eaſe; with a handſome area for a market place. The buildings were then

then moſtly of timber, but ſome of ſtone; and it is called by him "a "very quick market town, and meately large, the whole profit of "which ſtandeth by coarſe drapery."

Wakefield is now conſidered as one of the handſomeſt and moſt opulent of the clothing towns, being inhabited by ſeveral capital merchants, who have coſtly and elegant houſes. It is large and populous, and poſſeſſes a conſiderable ſhare of buſineſs. It has a good bridge over the Calder, on which ſtands an ancient chapel with gothic ſculptures, commonly ſaid to have been built by Edward IV. in memory of his father, but exiſting in the reign of Edward III. It is now diſuſed as a place of worſhip. Its church is large and lofty. The living is a vicarage in the gift of the king. The lectureſhip is in the gift of the Mercer's Company, London. There is one chapelry in the pariſh, that of Horbury. In the town are meetings for various ſects of diſſenters. There is a charity ſchool ſupported by ſubſcription.

The markets in Wakefield are on Thurſday and Friday. A great deal of buſineſs is done at them, particularly in the ſale of wool, which is ſent from all parts of England to factors in this place, who diſpoſe of it among the manufacturers in the different diſtricts around. The goods principally brought to this market are tammies and camlets, and alſo ſome white cloths. But the greater part of the white cloths made in its neighbourhood, particularly on the weſt, are ſent to the Leeds market. The fortnight cattle-fairs of Wakefield have already been mentioned, as ſupplying a great tract of country weſtwards with butcher's meat.

The

The Calder was made navigable to this town at the end of laſt century. A canal is now cutting from Wakefield to Barneſley. The banks of the Calder here are a tract of fine meadows.

Near this town was fought the battle between queen Margaret and the duke of York, in which the latter was ſlain, and his ſon, the young earl of Rutland, was put to death in cold blood by the barbarous Clifford. The duke lay before the battle at *Sandall-caſtle*, near Wakefield, an ancient fortreſs built by the earls Warren, of which a few fragments only now remain. It is ſaid to have been demoliſhed in the laſt civil wars.

Acroſs the Calder, about two miles from Wakefield, is the village of *Heath*, reckoned one of the moſt beautiful in England. It is ſituated on an eminence above the Calder, here a conſiderable river, commanding an extenſive and delightful view of the rich and populous country around. The village is built by the ſide of a green, the houſes being all of ſtone found on the ſpot. Of theſe the principal are thoſe of the late Sir G. Dalſton, now Mr. Dillon's, built in the reign of queen Elizabeth; of John Smyth, Eſq. one of the lords of the treaſury; and of Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Hopkinſon. The two firſt of theſe have extenſive pleaſure-grounds ſloping to the water, with walks through the woods on its banks.

The Calder is the eaſtern boundary of the woollen manufacture, which extends hence to the ridge of hills ſeparating Lancaſhire and Yorkſhire. The immenſe importance of this trade, and its late rapid progreſs, will appear from the annexed paper, to which we ſhall premiſe the fact, that in 1769 the quantity of broad cloth ſtamped was only 1,771,667 yards.

An

An account of the number of broad and narrow woollen cloths milled at the ſeveral fulling mills in the Weſt-Riding of the county of York from the 25th day of March, 1787, to the 25th day of March, 1793.

	Broads.		Narrows.	
Years.	Pieces.	Yards.	Pieces.	Yards.
1788	139,406	4,244,322	132,143	4,208,303
1789	154,134	4,716,460	145,495	4,409,573
1790	172,588	5,151,677	140,407	4,582,122
1791	187,569	5,815,079	154,373	4,797,594
1792	203,623	6,383,589	156,475	5,153,944
1793	214,851	6,760,728	190,468	5,531,698
1794	190,988	6,067,208	130,403	4,634,258

N. B. The above account is made up from 25th of March, 1787, to March, 1788, and ſo annually to March, 1794. Kerſeymeres are not included.

ADDI-

ADDITIONS.

THE ſubſequent articles came to hand too late to be inſerted in their proper places, but were thought too important to be omitted.

CANALS.

Barnſley Canal. In 1793 an act paſſed for a canal to proceed from the Calder below Wakefield, and paſſing Crofton, Felkirk, and Royſton, to arrive at Barnſley, whence it is to make a bend to Barnby-bridge, near Cawthorn, where it is to join another new canal, called the *Dearne and Dove canal*, which goes from Barnſley to the river Dun. The length of the Barnſley canal is about fourteen miles; its fall from the junction with the Dearne and Dove canal, to the Calder, is 120 feet. There are ſeveral rail ways for the conveyance of coal to the canal from Barnſley, and others from Barnby-bridge. It is now cutting.

Haſlingden Canal. An act in 1793 authoriſes the cutting of a canal from the Bury and Bolton Canal on the weſt ſide of Bury, through Walmſley, Tottington, Haſlingden, and Accrington, till it joins the Leeds and Liverpool canal at Church, after a courſe of thirteen miles. The undertakers are forbid to make any locks or ſimilar works, and in their

their ſtead are to employ the machinery of rollers, racks, or inclined planes; but if it be hereafter found expedient to conſtruct locks, they may do it, on conſent obtained from three-fourths of the owners of the mills on certain ſtreams.

Lancaſter Canal Extenſion. By an act paſſed in 1793 the proprietors of the Lancaſter canal are enabled to make a cut from the dock at Glaſſon, at the mouth of the Loyne, to communicate with the Lancaſter canal at Galgate, which is about ſix miles to the ſouth of Lancaſter. This cut will be about four miles in length, and will eſtabliſh an immediate communication between that canal and the ſea.

Mancheſter and Oldham Canal Extenſion. Under the head of the Oldham and Aſhton canal from Mancheſter, it is mentioned that a deſign was entertained of cutting a branch to Stockport. Powers for this purpoſe were given by an act paſſed in 1793, enabling the proprietors to make a canal from the Mancheſter and Oldham canal at Clayton demeſne, in the pariſh of Mancheſter, to Heaton Norris, near Mancheſter, which diſtance is about ſix miles, and parallel to the turnpike road; alſo, to continue this canal eaſtward to Denton, a diſtance of about three miles; likewiſe to make a cut from the Oldham branch, to Stake-Leach in Hollingwood, a diſtance of about two miles.

Duke of Bridgewater's canal from Worſley to Leigh. An act paſſed in 1795, authoriſes the duke to cut a branch from his canal at Worſley, to the townſhip of Pennington near Leigh. The tonnage of goods of all kinds carried on this canal is not to exceed 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton.

MAN-

MANCHESTER.

Bill of Mortality from the earlieſt Periods,

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Marr.	Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Marr.
1580	206	158	50	1772	1127	904	427
1590	201	264	25	1773	1168	923	383
1600	210	141	72	1774	1245	958	422
1605	175	1078	61 Pl.	1775	1359	835	473
1610	275	172	63	1776	1241	1220	494
1620	297	284	96	1777	1513	864	577
1630	310	195	71	1778	1449	975	484
1640	303	297	86	1779	1464	1288	448
1645	143	1212	67 Pl.	1780	1566	993	456
1650	144	182	35	1781	1591	1370	495
1660	162	135	37	1782	1678	984	567
1670	188	149	176	1783	1615	1496	682
1680	185	264	66	1784	1958	1175	843
1690	173	183	64	1785	1942	1734	893
1700	231	229	133	1786	2319	1282	872
1710	211	235	128	1787	2256	1761	903
1720	290	273	148	1788	2391	1637	968
1730	305	548	210	1789	2487	1788	920
1740	552	700	194	1790	2756	1940	1120
1750	740	902	279	1791	2960	2286	1302
1760	793	818	380	1792	2660	1605	1657
1770	1050	988	429	1793	2579	1491	1234
1771	1169	993	429	1794	2041	1241	1066

During the years marked (Pl.) the plague was in Manchester. There is a tradition, that for 200 years before this copy commences, the population was upon an average much the ſame with that ſtated the firſt year in this account, neither greatly increaſing nor diminiſhing.

Copy

Copy of Thomas Grelle's Grant to the Burgeſſes of Mancheſter.

SCIANT preſentes et futuri quod ego Thomas Grelle dedi et conceſſi et hac preſenti carta mea confirmavi omnibus burgenſibus meis Manceſtrienſis Scill.—quod omnes burgenſes reddent de quolibet burgagio ſuo duodecim denarios per annum pro omni ſervitio.

Et ſi præfectus villæ aliquem burgenſem calumpniaverit de aliquo placito, et calumpniatus non venerit ad diem nec aliquis pro eo infra Laghmot in foris factura eſt de duodecim denariis prædicto domino et prædictus dominus habeat placitum ſuum ſuper eum in Portemanmot.

Item, ſi aliquis burgenſis aliquem burgenſem implacitaverit de aliquo debito et ipſe cognoverit debitum præfectus ponat ei diem ſcill. octavum, et ſi non venerit ad diem reddat duodecim denarios pro foris factura die prædicto domino et reddat debitum et præfecto octo denarios.

Et ſi aliquis faciat clamorem de aliqua re et non invenerit vadium et plegios et poſtea velit dimittere clamorem ſine foris factura erit.

Item, ſi aliquis burgenſis in burgo aliquem burgenſem vulneraverit in die dominica vel a nona die Sabatti uſque ad diem lunæ ipſe erit in foris factura viginti ſolidos. Et ſi in die lunæ vel in aliis diebus ſeptimanæ vulneraverit aliquem ipſe cadet in foris factura duodecim denarios verſus prædictum dominum.

Item, ſi aliquis burgenſis cum aliquo certaverit et per iram eum percuſſerit ſine ſanguinis effuſione et ad domum ſuam redire poſſit ſine calumnia præfecti aut famulorum ſuorum liber erit de placito præpoſiti;

et

et ſi guerram alius cui commiſit ſuſtinere poterit bene poteſt fieri, ſin autem per conſilium amicorum ſuorum cum eo pacem faciat et hoc ſine foris factura præfecti.

Item, ſi aliquis implacitatus fuerit in burgo de aliquo placito non reſpondeat nec burgenſi villano niſi in ſuo Portemanmot, nec etiam vafori excepto placito quod ad coronam regis pertinat et de latrocinio.

Item ſi aliquis vocat aliquem burgenſem de latrocinio præfectus attachiat eum ad reſpondendum in curia domini et ſtare indicio.

Item ſi aliquis implacitatus fuerit de vicino ſuo vel de aliquo et tres dies ſecutus fuerit ſi teſtimonium habuerit de præpoſito et de vicinis ſuis de Portemanmot quod Adverſarius ſuus defectus ſit ad hos tres dies nullum poſtea det reſponſum et de placito illo.

Item burgenſes prædicti ſequentur molendinum domini prædicti et ejus furnum reddendo conſuetudines prædicti molendini et prædicti furni ut debent et ſolent.

Item, burgenſes debent et poſſunt præpoſitum eligere de ſeipſis quem voluerint et præpoſitum removere.

Item, nullus poteſt vicinum ſuum ducere ad ſacramentum niſi habeat ſectam de aliquo clamore.

Item, nullus poteſt aliquid recipere infra villam niſi per viſum præpoſiti.

Item,

Item, liceat cuilibet terram ſuam quæ non eſt de hereditate vendere vel dare ſi neceſſitas inciderit cuicunque voluerit niſi hæres eam emere voluerit, ſed hæres debet eſſe propinquior ad eam emendam.

Item, quilibet poteſt vendere de hereditate ſua ſive majus, ſive minus, ſive totum per conſenſum hæredis ſui. Et ſi forſitan hæres voluerit tamen ſi neceſſitas inciderit licebit ei vendere de hereditate ſua de quacunque ætate hæres fuerit.

Item, præpoſitus debet cui libet tradere burgenſi et cenſario ſendas ſuas in foro et præpoſitus debet inde recipere unum denarium ad opus prædicti domini.

Item, ſi burgenſis vel cenſarius voluerit ſtare in ſenda mercatoris ipſe debet pacare prædicto domino quantumcunque extraneus, et ſi ſtet in propria ſenda tunc nil daturus eſt prædicto domino.

Item, burgenſes poſſunt nutrire porcos ſuos prope nutritos in boſcis domini exceptis foreſtis et parcis domini prædicti uſque ad terminum pannagii et ſi velint ad prædictum terminum diſcedere, liceat eis abſque licentia domini et ſi velint moram facere ad terminum pannagii de pannagio ſatisfaciant prædicto domino.

Item, ſi aliquis implacitatus fuerit ante dies Laghmot et tunc venerit oportet eum reſpondere et non debet ſe eſſoniare ſine foris factura et ſi tunc primo implacitatus fuerit tunc habeat primum diem.

Item, burgenſes poſſunt namare homines ſive milites ſive ſacerdotes ſive clericos, pro debitis ſuis ſi inventi fuerint in burgo.

Item,

Item, ſi neceſſitas inciderit quod aliquis vendat burgagium ſuum ipſe poteſt de vicino ſuo aliud burgagium recipere et quilibet burgenſis poteſt tradere burgagium ſuum vicinis ſuis per viſum comburgenſium.

Item, liceat prædictis burgenſibus tradere cattalla ſua propria cuicunque voluerint in feodo prædicti domini libere et ſine licentia prædicti domini.

Item, ſi burgenſis homini villano aliquid commodaverit in burgo et terminus inde tranſivit in burgo ſumat namium de villano et per namium ſuum certificat eum et reddat namium per plegios uſque ad terminum octo dierum et tunc reddat plegii ſive namium ſive denarios.

Item, burgenſis de quocunque emerit vel venundaverit in feodo prædicti domini liber erit a tolneto.

Et ſi aliquis de alia ſhiria venerit qui debeat conſuetudinem reddere ſi cum tolneto deceſſerit et retentus a præfecto vel ab alio ejus foris factura erit duodecim ſolidos ad opus domini et reddat tolnetum ſuum.

Et ſi aliquis alii aliquid accomodaverit ſine teſtimonio quicquam non reſpondebit ei niſi habuerit teſtimonium et ſi teſtimonium habuerit per ſacramentum duorum hominum poteſt negare.

Item, qui fregit aſſiſam ſive de pane ſive de cereviſia ipſe erit in foris factura duodecim denarios ad opus domini.

Item, ſi aliquis alium vulneraverit in burgo præpoſitus debet attachiare eum ſi inventus fuerit extra domum ſuam per vadium et plegios.

Item,

Item, quilibet debet et poteſt eſſe ad placitum pro ſponſa ſua et pro familia ſua, et ſponſa cujuſlibet poteſt firmam ſuam reddere præpoſito et placitum ſequi pro ſponſo ſuo ſi ipſe forſitan aliunde fuerit.

Item, ſi aliquis villanus burgenſes calumpniatus fuerit de aliquo, burgenſes non debent reſpondere ei niſi habuerit ſectam de burgenſibus vel aliis legalibus hominibus.

Item, burgenſis ſi non habuerit hæredem ipſe poterit legare burgagium ſuum et cattalla cum moritur ubicunque ſibi placuerit ſalvo tamen domini ſervitio.

Item, ſi aliquis burgenſis moriatur ſponſa ejus debet manere in domo et ibi habeat neceſſaria quamdiu voluerit eſſe ſine marito, et hæres cum illa et ex quo illa voluerit maritari ipſa decedet et hæres ut dominus ibi manebit.

Item, ſi burgenſis moriatur hæres ejus nullum aliud relevium dabit prædicto domino niſi alicujuſmodi arma.

Item, ſi burgenſis vendat burgagium ſuum et velit a villa decedere dabit domino quatuor denarios et liber ibit ubicunque voluerit.

Præterea omnia placita prædita erunt determinata coram ſeneſchallo per rotulationem clerici prædicti domini.

Et omnes libertates prænominatas ego prædictus Thomas et Hæredes mei tenebimus prædictis burgenſibus et hæredibus ſuis in perpetuum ſalvo

ſalvo mihi et hæredibus meis rationabili tallagio quando dominus rex fecerit tallagium per liberos burgos ſuos per Angliam.

Et ut hæc donatio et conceſſio rata ſit et ſtabilis ſigilli mei appoſitione hoc ſcriptum roboravi. Hiis teſtibus dominis. Johanne Byron; Ricardo Byron, militibus; Henrico de Trafford; Ric: de Hulton; Ad: de Preſtwyche; Rogero de Pylkington; Galfro de Chaterton; Ric: de Moſton; Johe de Preſtwyche, et aliis. Datum apud Manceſtr: quarto decimo die Maij, anno domini milleſſimo tricenteſſimo primo, et anno regni regis Edwardi filii Henricis regis viceſſimo nono.

(L. S.)

14th May, 1301.

Thomas Grelle's Grant of the Cuſtom of the Mannor pt of Mancheſter,

Endorſement upon the Grant.

Between the Right Hon. George Earl of Warrington and others, - - - - Plts.
and
Sir Oſwald Moſeley, Bart. - - - - Deft.

In the dutchy of Lancaſ. at Weſtminſter, at Mancheſter.

September 24th, 1733. Shewn on the Execution of a Commiſſion in this Cauſe on the Defendant's behalf, and depoſed unto by Mr. Richard Davenport,

Before us,

George Haydon,
Thomas Starkie,
William Shaw.

TRANS-

TRANSLATION OF THE ABOVE.*

ALL they that be preſent and to come, know that I, Thomas Grelle, have given, granted, and by this my preſent charter have confirmed to all my burgeſſes of Mancheſter,

That is to ſay,

That all the burgeſſes ſhall pay of every burgage twelve pence by the year for all ſervice.

And if the burgreeve, governor, or ruler of the ſaid town ſummon any burgeſs of any plaint, and he ſo ſummoned come not, nor none for him, at the day within the laghmot, he ſhall forfeit to the ſaid lord twelve pence, and the ſaid lord ſhall have his action upon him in the portmoot.

If any burgeſs do ſue any burgeſs of any debt, and he acknowledge the debt, then ſhall the ſaid governor or ruler aſſign him a day, (to wit) the eighth, and if he come not at the day, he ſhall pay to the lord twelve pence for forfeiture of the day, and he ſhall pay the debt, and to the ſaid governor or ruler eight pence.

And if any man make claim of any thing, and ſhall not find ſureties or pledges, and afterwards would leave his claim, he ſhall be without forfeiture.

Item, if any burgeſs in the borough, on the Sunday or from nine o'clock on Sunday until Monday, do hurt any burgeſs, he ſhall forfeit

* Made by the Rev. Mr. Whitaker, the hiſtorian of Mancheſter.

twenty

twenty ſhillings. And if upon Monday or any other day of the week he do hurt any perſon, he ſhall forfeit to the ſaid lord twelve pence.

Item, if any burgeſs ſhall ſtrive with any man and with anger ſtrike him, without any effuſion of blood, and afterwards flee to his own houſe without any attachment of the ſaid governor, or ruler, or of his ſervants, he ſhall be free from any plaint of the ruler. And if he can agree with the party of whom he maketh the fray, (well be it) but if he can make his peace with the party by the counſel of his friends, he may do it without forfeiture to the governor or ruler.

And if any man be impleaded in the borough of any plaint, he ſhall not anſwer neither to a burgeſs nor to a villain, unleſs in the portmoot, except plaint pertaining to the king's crown or to theft.

Item, and if any man do challenge any burgeſs of theft, the ſaid governor or ruler ſhall attach him for to anſwer at the lord's court and to ſtand to his evidence.

And if any man be impleaded by his neighbour or by any others, and follow the ſame three court-days, if he have witneſs of the ruler and his neighbours of the portmoot that his adverſary is in default at thoſe three days, the ſaid defendant ſhall make no anſwer unto him of the ſame plaint.

Alſo the ſaid burgeſſes ſhall follow (or do ſuit to) the lord's mill and his common oven, and ſhall pay their cuſtoms to the ſaid mill and oven as they ought and were wont to do.

Item,

Item, the burgeſſes ought and may choſe a reeve of themſelves whom they will, and to remove the reeve.

Item, no man may bring his neighbour to any oath unleſs he have ſuit of ſome claim.

Item, no man may receive any thing within the town but by view of the reeve.

Item, it ſhall be lawful to every man to ſell or give his lands which are not of his inheritance, if need be, to whom he will, except his heir will buy it, but the heir ought to be the next or neareſt of kin to buy it.

Item, every man may ſell of his inheritance be it more, or leſs, or all, by the conſent of his heir. And if peradventure the heir will not, notwithſtanding if he fall in neceſſity it ſhall be lawful for him to ſell of his inheritance what age ſoever the heir be.

Item, the reeve ought to let to every burgeſs and ſtander his ſtall in the market, and the ſaid reeve ought to receive for every ſtanding a penny to the uſe of the ſaid lord.

Item, if the burgeſs or ſtander will ſtand in the ſtalls of the market, he ought to pay unto the ſaid lord as much as a ſtranger; and if he ſtand in his own ſtall, he ought to pay nothing unto the ſaid lord.

Item, every burgeſs may nouriſh his hogs of his own bringing up in the lord's woods, except the foreſts and parks of the ſaid lord, unto the

the time of pannage; and if they will at that time go their way, it ſhall be lawful for them without the licenſe of the lord; and if they will tarry the time of that pannage, they ſhall agree or recompenſe the ſaid lord for their pannage.

Item, if any man be impleaded before the day of the laghmot and then cǫmeth, he muſt anſwer, and ought not to be aſſoined without forfeiture, and if it be the firſt time that he be impleaded, he may have the firſt day.

Item, the burgeſſes may arreſt men, whether they be knights, prieſts, or clerks, for their debts, if they be found in the borough.

Item, if neceſſity fall that any ſell his burgage, he may take another of his neighbour, and every burgeſs may let his burgage to his neighbour by view of his fellow burgeſſes.

And it ſhall be lawful to the ſaid burgeſſes to let their own proper chattels within the fee of the ſaid lord to whom they will freely without licenſe of the ſaid lord.

Item, if a burgeſs lend any thing unto any villain in the borough, and the day be expired, he may take a gage of the ſaid villain, and by his gage he ſhall certify and deliver the gage upon ſurety unto the term of eight days, and then the ſureties ſhall anſwer either the gage or the money.

Item, if a burgeſs do either buy or ſell to any man within the fee of the ſaid lord, he ſhall be free of the toll.

And

And if any of any other ſhire come, the which ought to pay cuſtom, if he go away with the toll and be retained by the governor, or ruler, or any others, he ſhall forfeit twelve ſhillings to the uſe of the lord, and pay his toll.

And if any perſon do lend any thing to another without witneſs, he ſhall anſwer him nothing, unleſs he ſhall have witneſs, and if he have, the party may deny it upon oaths of two men.

He that breaketh aſſize either of bread or ale, ſhall forfeit twelve pence to the uſe of the lord.

Item, if any man hurt another in the borough, the governor or ruler ought to attach him, if he may be found without his houſe, by gage or by ſurety.

Item, every man ought and may anſwer for his wife, and his houſehold, and the wife of any man may give up his farm to the reeve, and follow any plaint or action for her huſband, if he peradventure be abſent in another place.

Item, if any villain ſhall ſue burgeſſes for any thing, the burgeſs is not bound to anſwer him, except it be at the ſuit of burgeſſes or of other lawful men.

Item, if a burgeſs have no heir, he may bequeath his burgage and chattels when he dieth to whom he will, ſaving only ſervice of the lord.

Item,

Item, if any burgeſs die his wife ought to remain in the houſe, and there to have neceſſaries as long as ſhe will be without a huſband, and the heir with her, and when ſhe will marry ſhe ſhall depart, and the heir ſhall remain there as maſter.

Item, if any burgeſs ſhall die, his heir ſhall pay no other relief to the lord but ſome kind of arms.

Item, if any burgeſs ſell his burgage, and will depart from the town, he ſhall give to the lord four pence, and ſhall go free where he will.

Furthermore, all plaints aforeſaid ſhall be determined before the ſteward by the enrollment of the ſaid lord's clerk.

And all the ſaid liberties I, the ſaid Thomas, and my heirs, ſhall keep to the ſaid burgeſſes and their heirs for ever, ſaving to me and my heirs reaſonable tallage or taxes when the lord the king maketh tallage, or taxeth his free burgeſſes through England.

And that this my gift and grant may be ratified and eſtabliſhed, to this, my preſent writing, I have cauſed my ſeal to be ſet, theſe being witneſſes,

Sir John Byron,
Richard Byron,
Henry, of Trafford,
Richard, of Hulton,
Adam, of Preſtwich,
Roger, of Pilkington,
Geoffry, of Chadderton,
Richard, of Moſton,
John, of Preſtwich,
and others.

Dated

Dated at Mancheſter, the fourteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thouſand three hundred and one; and in year of the reign of king Edward, ſon of king Henry, the twenty-ninth.

On the bottom fold of the original deed, to which the ſeal is affixed, are theſe words wrote, viz.

Lett this be inrolled and exemplifyed, per vidimus ſexto decimo die Septembri 1623 viceſſimo primo Jacobi regis Angli, &c.

Chr. Baneiſter.

LIVERPOOL

I.—*Its Charters.*

LIVERPOOL is ſaid to be a borough by preſcription, but its firſt charter was granted by king John in the 9th year of his reign. Several ſucceeding monarchs have granted either new charters or charters of confirmation. Thoſe previous to the reign of Charles I. are, the charters of Henry III. Edward III. Richard II. Henry IV. Confirmation, Henry IV. Charter, Philip and Mary.

The general purport of theſe charters is the eſtabliſhment of a free borough, and of a guild-merchant in Liverpool. Some of them alſo grant an excluſive privilege of trade, *and that no perſon who ſhall not be of that guild, ſhall do any merchandize there without the conſent of the burgeſſes*; but the charters of Richard II. and William and Mary, expreſſly except ſuch prohibitory clauſe.

Under

Lytham ... Arms
Borough
Libraries,

Under theſe charters the affairs of the corporation were anciently tranſacted by general meetings of the burgeſſes at large, aſſembled in common hall; where they choſe their officers annually, on St. Luke's day, and made bye laws for the good government of the town. Theſe meetings were in all probability not very numerous; but as the population of the town increaſed, the inhabitants found it neceſſary to intruſt the direction of ſome part of their public buſineſs to a ſelect body, who were yearly nominated, and varied in number as circumſtances required. In the year 1558 (as appears by a letter from the corporation to queen Elizabeth) there were only thirteen veſſels belonging to the port, viz. one of 100, one of fifty, and eleven under thirty tons; and in 1665, the whole number of freemen was 184. In the former-mentioned year, *ſixteen perſons were choſen to be a privy council*, and it was afterwards ordered that *twelve burgeſſes ſhould be every year named, to order all things neceſſary for the common hall:* this number was afterwards again changed to ſixteen; but notwithſtanding theſe delegations, common halls, or public meetings of the inhabitants, ſtill continued to be held for the general tranſaction of the buſineſs of the town.

The firſt indication of the exiſtence of a common council appears in a bye law, or reſolution, made in the mayorality of *Edward Halſall*, in 1759: which ſtates, *that there had formerly been a cuſtom that the town ſhould be ordered by a common council, without the reſt of the commonality, as in other corporations*, but *that ſuch cuſtom had been ſo defaced by the uſurpations of the commons, that in effect there remaineth no memory thereof at all; ſaving that twenty-four burgeſſes once every year being impanneled, &c. have for ſome remembrance of the ſaid former cuſtoms taken upon them to preſcribe rules and orders for the government*

vernment of the town. It is then ordered *that the late uſurped aſſemblies ſhall be aboliſhed*, and the *ancient cuſtom of common council reſtored*; and that in caſe of vacancy, by death or otherwiſe, the reſt of the council ſhall chooſe another to ſupply the place.

This ſingular bye law, or order, upon which the common council of the preſent day are ſaid to found their right to elect the members of their own body, by whatever authority it was ordained, did not prevent the burgeſſes from continuing to aſſemble together and frequently tranſacting their own concerns, till the year 1626; when Charles I. granted the charter, which is yet conſidered as the conſtitution of the place. By this charter, he gives to the *mayor, bailiffs, and burgeſſes*, a power of making bye laws for the government of the town; but no notice whatever is taken of any ſelect body acting as a common council, nor is any common council there appointed. In the following year the burgeſſes, however, met together, and nominated a common council, who, under ſuch authority, but not under that of the charter, took upon them the direction of the concerns of the corporation, and frequently filled the vacancies that aroſe in their own number. In 1662, ſeveral of the aldermen and common council-men, together with the town-clerk, were removed from their offices, by commiſſioners appointed under the 13th of Charles II. for refuſing to take the oath therein preſcribed, from which it may be inferred that they were at this time conſidered as eſtabliſhed officers of the corporation.

The common council, thus purified by the court, ſeem to have formed a plan for veſting in themſelves and their aſſociates all the powers of the corporate body, independent of the burgeſſes; which they effectually accompliſhed by obtaining a new charter from king Charles II.

in

in 1677, which appointed in expreſs terms a common council, to conſiſt of ſixty perſons, who were therein nominated, thirty of whom, together with the mayor and bailiffs, *ſhould have power to elect and name the mayor, bailiffs, common council, and freemen of the town*; thereby concentering the whole power of the corporation in the common council themſelves. The burgeſſes at large proteſted againſt this charter, even ſeveral of the council-men therein named refuſed to act under it, and ſome tumults took place in the town; but the ſpirit of the times ſtifled all oppoſition, and the common council continued to exerciſe the whole authority, till the charter of William III. introduced other regulations.

It ſeems, however, that the corporation were not yet thought ſufficiently dependent on the court, for in 1684 chief juſtice Jefferies demanded, on the part of the king, a ſurrender of the charter, which was delivered up to him, and immediately returned to the mayor. This being ſuppoſed to be a ſurrender of the privileges of the town, application was made to king James II. for a new charter, which was accordingly obtained, and which directed that the common council *ſhould conſiſt of ſixty-one, including the mayor and two bailiffs*, and that the council *ſhould be elected by ſuch perſons as had theretofore been accuſtomed to elect them*, or in other words, granting them an expreſs power to elect each other, in perpetuity. But the moſt extraordinary part of the charter is a reſervation of a power in the king to remove *all the officers of the corporation at pleaſure*. This power he did not fail to exerciſe, by removing ſuch as were obnoxious to him; which ſo alarmed the council, that on the 12th of September, 1688, they made an order, *That with all due ſubmiſſion and humble deference to the power of removing any officer in this corporation, James Preſcott, Eſq.*

mayor

mayor for the time being ſhall ſafely keep the wand, mace, and ſword, with all other real and perſonal eſtate of the corporation, and all that concerns the ſame, for the defence of its rights wherewith he is now intruſted, until a ſucceſſor be legally choſen and ſworn, according to our preſent charter and the ancient cuſtom of this corporation.

Soon after the revolution, the common council obtained a new exemplification of the charter of Charles II. and diſavowed that of James, as having been founded on a pretended ſurrender of privileges, which was never recorded. The charter of Charles II. gave them the full command of the corporation, without ſubjecting them to removal at the will of the crown. But great changes had now taken place in public opinions; and applications were made to the king for a charter, which might reſtore to the burgeſſes their ancient rights. The common council were appriſed of theſe attempts, and endeavoured to counteract them, as appears by an order of the 29th of March, 1695, in which they take notice *that endeavours are uſed to take away or make void the charter of Charles II. under which the corporation derives many great privileges and immunities*, and direct *that the mayor and bailiff ſhall, at the charge of the corporation, uſe their utmoſt endeavours to preſerve the ſame*; but theſe endeavours were ineffectual, for on the 26th of September, in the ſame year, king William III. granted the now ſubſiſting charter of the place.

The conteſts that have ariſen as to the conſtruction of this charter, and which have lately been the ſubject of an extenſive litigation in the court of King's Bench, renders the conſideration of it in ſome degree intereſting.

After

After *inſpecting* or ſtating in the ſame words the charter of Charles I. and confirming the ſame, it proceeds to notice, *that a few of the burgeſſes of the town, by a combination among themſelves, without the aſſent of the greater part of the burgeſſes, and without a ſurrender of the charter of Charles I. or any judgment of quo warranto, had procured the charter of Charles II.* in which *ſundry material changes were deſigned to be made in the government of the town, which had cauſed many differences and doubts concerning the liberties, franchiſes, and cuſtoms, of the town, and alſo concerning the election and appointment of the mayor, and* DIVERS OTHER OFFICERS *of the ſame town.*

The charter then appoints a common council of forty-one burgeſſes, one of whom ſhall be mayor, and two bailiffs. And by a ſubſequent clauſe, it directs that upon the removal or death of any of the mayor, recorder, town-clerk, bailiffs, or common council, another fit perſon ſhall be elected *by ſuch perſons, and in ſuch manner, time, and form, as in that particular was uſed and accuſtomed before the making the charter of Charles II.*

It is obſervable, that this clauſe which relates to the election of the officers, is in the ſame words as the clauſe reſpecting election in the charter of James II. except that in that of James the election is directed to be *as theretofore accuſtomed*, and in that of William it is directed to be made in the ſame manner *as before the charter of Charles II.* at which time the common council *did not exiſt by charter, but by delegation from the burgeſſes.* The charter of William III. further directs that the mayor ſhall be choſen *by the burgeſſes out of the common council.*

Under

Under this charter it might have been expected, that the burgeſſes would again have entered upon the exerciſe of their rights, but the new common council were ſoon aware of the power they poſſeſſed. By the charter of Charles I. now again recogniſed, as part of the conſtitution of the place, no common hall, or aſſembly of the burgeſſes could be held without the aſſent and preſence of the mayor, and one at leaſt of the bailiffs. By that of William III. the mayor and bailiffs muſt be choſen from the common council. The council then exiſting, without adverting to the diſtinction between the charters of James II. and of William III. reſpecting the choice of their members, ſtill continued to elect each other; and all that was neceſſary, therefore, on their parts for ſecuring to themſelves the whole government of the town, was to elect *only* ſuch perſons into the council as they were ſatisfied *would not call together the burgeſſes* for the purpoſes of making bye laws, or be preſent at ſuch meeting; and with ſuch precaution have they conducted themſelves, that a full century has now elapſed without the burgeſſes at large having been able to avail themſelves of the privileges intended to be granted to them.

This total extinction of their ancient rights has not, however, been ſubmitted to without various ſtruggles. In the year 1735, James, earl of Derby, then mayor of the town, with the concurrence of the bailiffs, called together the burgeſſes in common hall. The aſſembly was accordingly held, and ſundry bye laws made. But the earl dying in the following year, the common council again aſſumed the whole authority, and diſmiſſed the two bailiffs from their office of common council-men; declaring in expreſs terms, that in holding the ſaid common hall, they had acted manifeſtly in breach of the truſt repoſed in them as common council-men of the borough.

There

There is, however, reaſon to preſume, that notwithſtanding the authority exerciſed by the common council in making bye laws for the government of the town, they could not diveſt themſelves of ſome doubts as to their power ſo to do, under the ſubſiſting charter. In order, therefore, to prevent all further oppoſition, they applied, in the year 1751, to George II. to grant them a new charter, ſtating in their petition the former charters, and particularly that of William III. which, as they (with ſome inaccuracy) obſerve, *ordained that for the future to preſerve the peace, tranquillity, and good government, of the town, there ſhall or may be for ever forty-one good and diſcreet burgeſſes, who ſhall be called the common council, &c. omitting* (as they ſay) *to give them the leaſt power, in expreſs terms, though it was the manifeſt if not the ſole intent of this charter, to give forty-one the power in the firſt recited clauſe of king Charles's charter* (the power of making bye laws) *in order to prevent the populous meetings of the burgeſſes upon every trifling occaſion, as the town was ſo extremely increaſed ſince that time.* They then ſuggeſt to the king that it may *thereafter cauſe diſputes, unleſs the ſaid charter was explained for this purpoſe, by adding the clauſe of king Charles's charter, or in ſuch manner as his majeſty ſhould think fit.* In plain language, they requeſted the king would give to the ſelect body of the common council the ſame power of making bye laws which the body at large poſſeſſed under the charter of Charles I. and they conclude with petitioning that the mayor may act as a juſtice of the peace for four years, and that the recorder may have power to appoint a deputy.

This petition was referred to the then attorney and ſolicitor general, Sir Dudley Rider, and Mr. (afterwards lord) Mansfield, who recommended to withdraw the whole of their petition, except ſuch as related

related to the appointment of juſtices of the peace, and the nomination of a deputy recorder; to which they prudently aſſented, and on the report of the attorney and ſolicitor general a new charter was then obtained which granted their requeſt, and confirmed all former privileges; but which left the common council, as to their legiſlative authority, in the ſame ſituation in which they ſtood under the charter of William III.

This diſappointment made no alteration in the conduct of the common council, who continued to nominate their own members as occaſion required, and to make regulations or bye laws for the government of the town; but it is obſervable, that in caſe of reſiſtance, theſe bye laws were never enforced by legal proceedings. In fact, few of theſe bye laws have at preſent any active exiſtence, the town being governed, and the police regulated, chiefly under the authority of various acts of parliament which have been obtained for that purpoſe; but the receipts and expenditure of the large income of the corporation reſted entirely with the common council, who never audited or publiſhed their accompts, or communicated to the burgeſſes at large any information as to the real ſtate of their concerns. In order to remedy theſe ſuppoſed abuſes, a majority of the reſident burgeſſes in the year 1791 preſented a petition to John Sparling, Eſq. the mayor; Robert Moſs, and Clayton Tarleton, Eſqrs. the bailiffs; requeſting them to call together a general aſſembly of the burgeſſes in common hall. Theſe officers complied with the requiſition, and ſuch meeting was accordingly held, and very numerouſly attended, when meaſures were taken for bringing to a trial at law, the important queſtions which had ſo long been the ſubject of debate among the burgeſſes, viz. in what part of the corpora-

corporation the *making of bye laws and electing the common council* reſided.

The cauſe reſpecting the bye laws came on to be tried at the aſſizes at Lancaſter in the ſame year, before Mr. Baron Thompſon; Mr. Erſkine being the leading counſel for the ſelect body, and Mr. Serjeant Adair for the burgeſſes; when the jury being of opinion that the power of making bye laws was, under the charter of Charles I. recognized by that of William III. expreſſly given to the corporation at large, and the judge having directed them, that no evidence of a cuſtom ought to be admitted againſt the expreſs words of a charter, a verdict was given for the burgeſſes.

A motion was afterwards made in the court of King's Bench for a new trial, when, after a long argument, the judges of that court were of opinion that the evidence of the cuſtom ought to have been admitted, and directed a new trial accordingly. The cauſe was again tried in the following year, when the records of the town were produced and given in evidence; but the ſecond jury were alſo of opinion that no practice could be legal that was in direct oppoſition to the clauſe in the charter of Charles I. which gave the power of making bye laws *to the mayor, bailiffs, and burgeſſes, on public notice for that purpoſe*, and gave a verdict againſt the claims of the common council.

A third trial was then moved for, which the court of King's Bench, on what grounds does not appear, thought proper to grant. But the expences incurred in theſe proceedings, which were diſburſed by individual burgeſſes, added to the conſideration that the law has preſcribed no limits to the authority of a court, in remanding a cauſe for trial, when-

whenever it is not ſatisfied with the verdict, deterred the burgeſſes from the further proſecution of their claim; and the common council, notwithſtanding the opinion of the two juries, ſtill continue to exerciſe the excluſive power of the corporation in the ſame manner as before theſe proceedings were commenced.

The queſtion reſpecting the right of electing the members of the common council was alſo tried, the burgeſſes contending, that as the charter of William III. referred to the cuſtom before that of Charles II. at which time the common council exiſted *not by charter*, but *by the appointment of the burgeſſes*, they had a right to elect; and the common council on the contrary contending, that the charter of William meant to refer to *the actual practice* before the charter of Charles II. On this point the jury were of opinion that the cuſtom was deciſive, and gave a verdict accordingly. The event of this conteſt, and of the celebrated Cheſter cauſe, in which a ſolemn deciſion of the Houſe of Lords was obtained by the exertions, and at the expence, of an individual, without producing the leaſt change in the practice of the corporation, will be a uſeful caution to ſuch as may be hereafter inclined to engage in ſimilar undertakings.

II.—*Project of its Participation in the Eaſt India Trade.*

THE active and enterprizing ſpirit which has uniformly diſtinguiſhed the merchants of Liverpool, had led them at different times to turn their attention towards the trade between Great Britain and the Eaſt Indies, and it had been repeatedly ſuggeſted, that there appeared no obvious reaſons why the benefits ariſing from the being immediately concerned

concerned in the carrying on this extenſive and growing branch of commerce, ſhould be confined wholly to a monopoly by the merchants of London under an excluſive charter.

On a former occaſion there had been an application from the merchants of Liverpool to the Eaſt India Company, for a certain number of their ſhips to be fitted out and laden annually from the port of Liverpool; but though this propoſition was liſtened to with ſome attention, yet it failed of being carried into effect.

In the year 1792, the growing wealth and proſperity of Liverpool had led its merchants to believe that they were poſſeſſed of ſufficient capital, and that they were in other reſpects competent to the carrying on of a trade to the Eaſt Indies with advantage. They were the more impreſſed with this idea, as the merchants of the United States of America had for ſome years been engaged in the ſame traffic, and were acquiring large fortunes in it. The approaching expiration of the Eaſt India Company's charter, and the poſſibility of a partial or total abolition of the African Slave Trade, induced the merchants of Liverpool to hope that this would be a ſeaſon peculiarly favourable for their application.

A public meeting of the merchants and inhabitants was accordingly held within the Exchange, and the following reſolutions were unanimouſly voted:

"RESOLVED,

"I. THAT the Creator of the Univerſe, by endowing different portions of the earth with different products, has laid the foundation of com-

commerce; which, having for its object the ſupply of mutual wants, and the exchange of mutual comforts, may be ſafely left to the regulations which mutual intereſt points out, and ſhould, as far as poſſible, be free from every reſtraint.

" II. That monopolies are deſtructive of theſe principles, becauſe they provide for the intereſt of the monopoliſt only, and enable him to fix at his own pleaſure, both the rate at which he buys from one country and ſells to another, and the charge at which he carries the commodities of each.

" III. That the hiſtory of the Eaſt India Company affords moſt ſtriking proofs of the conſequence of truſting ſuch powers to the diſcretion of individuals; and the injuries which their monopoly of the trade between Britain and India has produced to both countries, are of the moſt ſerious nature.

" IV. That the principles to which many of theſe are to be traced, is the temptation which the poſſeſſion of this monopoly has offered to the Eaſt India Company, to exchange the character of merchants for thoſe of warriors and politicians, by which they have aſſumed the ſovereignty of twenty millions of men with whom traffic was their firſt, and ought to have been their only object.

" V. That to ſupport a dominion by force, which could no otherwiſe be ſupported, they have been led to maintain vaſt and expenſive civil and military eſtabliſhments, the whole charge of which muſt be defrayed by the people of India or Great Britain, and ſeems a heavy,

and

and cruel, as well as uſeleſs burthen, on the connection between the two countries.

" VI. That peace is the natural, and ought to be the inſeparable attendant of commerce;---that the poſſeſſion of continental territories is valuable only as it is productive of commercial intercourſe; and that it is probable the opening of the Eaſt India trade will render leſs frequent thoſe deſolating wars which have ſo often deluged the ſoil of that unhappy country with the blood of its inhabitants, whilſt they have been equally fatal to this country by the ſacrifice of thouſands of Britiſh ſubjects and the expenditure of millions of Britiſh treaſure.

" VII. That the Eaſt India monopoly prevents the free export of our manufactures to one of the largeſt and richeſt regions of the world, where there is reaſon to believe they might, in the courſe of open trade, be increaſed in their vent twenty fold and upwards;—that under the preſent ſyſtem the exports are conducted without a proper attention to the change of circumſtances and ſeaſons; and due means are not employed for opening new ſources of traffic on the eaſtern coaſt of Africa, the iſland of Madagaſcar, the countries that lie up the ſtreights of Babelmandel, and on the ſhores of the Perſian Gulph, with many of the vaſt profuſion of iſlands that are ſcattered throughout the Indian Ocean, all within the limits of the Company's monopoly, and yielding them little or no advantage, but which the unfettered enterpriſe and ſkill of individuals might ſoon explore, and render of the utmoſt importance.

" VIII. That this monopoly choaks many of the infant manufactures of Britain as they ariſe, from the power it gives of lowering at pleaſure the rival manufactures of India in the home market; the loſs

ſuſtained

ſuſtained being laid on ſuch articles as are the produce of the ſoil of India, which habit has rendered neceſſary amongſt us, and which are not to be obtained elſewhere; a power that more than once has deſtroyed the manufacture of Britiſh porcelain, and that was employed to oppoſe and bear down the manufacture of cotton, now riſen to ſuch national importance.

" IX. That the injuries to commerce and navigation have been proportional, as may be clearly inferred. The practice indeed of employing large veſſels on overcharged freights is an open ſacrifice of the intereſt of the Company itſelf to the ſelfiſh views of individuals, and is an undeniable proof of the entire departure from the principles of fair traffic into which this monopoly has diverged:---that all the branches of thoſe moſt important manufactures employed in the building and equipment of ſhipping, are injured under the preſent ſyſtem, which alſo obſtructs the training of mariners, on which our national ſafety and proſperity ſo particularly depend.

" X. That the progreſs of time and experience has now effectually removed the grounds on which the excluſive trade to India was originally ſupported, viz. the danger and expence of ſo diſtant a traffic. The free trade and manufactures of Great Britain have produced ſuch an influx of wealth, and accumulation of capital, that there is no adventure too heavy for private merchants, or private companies of merchants, to undertake; the genius, induſtry, and talents of our people are ſuch, that there is no part of the world to which they cannot make a free trade profitable, and that nearly in proportion to its riches and population; and ſuch are the ſkill and enterprize of our navigators,

that

that there is no ſhore ſo dangerous, no region ſo remote, as to daunt their ſpirit, or prevent their approach.

" XI. That theſe facts are capable of collateral proof, from the ſucceſs with which the merchants of Portugal carried on a trade to India without any excluſive charter, for a century and upwards; and ſtill more from the ſucceſs of the merchants of North America, who now traverſe every part of the Indian and Pacific Oceans with veſſels of no larger a ſize than thoſe uſually employed on the Atlantic, and who with capitals comparatively inſignificant, are opening moſt advantageous channels of traffic, from which the Britiſh merchant, with prior claims, ſuperior ſkill, and irreſiſtible capital, is by a falſe policy excluded.

" XII. That as it is the natnre of trade to force its way through leſs direct channels, when its natural courſe is obſtructed, the products of Great Britain now begin to be ſent to the Eaſt Indies in American bottoms, and thoſe of China and the Eaſt Indies to be ſmuggled into Britain and her colonies, through America and Oſtend, to the injury of the Britiſh trader and manufacturer, as well as of the Britiſh conſumer, all of whoſe intereſts are thus palpably ſacrificed.

" XIII. That theſe facts while they point out the impolicy of the preſent ſyſtem of Eaſt India monopoly, demonſtrate alſo the impoſſibility of its being continued without meaſures of rigor that the occaſion will not juſtify, and more and more violence againſt the true principles of commerce now ſo well underſtood, and operating with ſuch great and rapid influence on the national proſperity.

" XIV.

" XIV. That clear as we are in all theſe views, we are yet aware that difficulties may attend the overthrow of a falſe ſyſtem that has continued ſo long, and connected itſelf ſo widely; and we ſhould condemn all attempts for this purpoſe that would ſacrifice the intereſt of thoſe immediately concerned, in expiation of the miſtaken policy of the nation; but we wiſh the public at large to ſee the evil of this monopoly in its full extent, and the collected wiſdom of the legiſlature to be employed in removing it by methods conſiſtent with true policy and the principles of juſtice.

" XV. That a petition be therefore preſented to parliament, praying that the whole of this important ſubject may be taken into conſideration, and that we may be permitted to be heard by counſel, and, if need be, to adduce evidence in ſupport of our allegations againſt the renewal of an excluſive charter, by which our intereſts in common with the commercial, manufacturing, and by conſequence, landed intereſts of the kingdom are ſo manifeſtly injured.

" XVI. That a committee be now appointed to prepare ſuch petition for the conſideration of a public meeting, to be hereafter called.

" XVII. That the ſaid committee be requeſted to correſpond with ſuch other towns and places, as they may think proper, in order to obtain their co-operation with us on this important buſineſs.

" XVIII. That theſe reſolutions be publiſhed in ſuch of the London and country newſpapers, as the ſaid committee may direct.

" XIX.

" XIX. That the following gentlemen be appointed a committee, and that any three of them aſſembled, on due notice, be competent to act, viz.

The worſhipful the Mayor,

Nicholas Aſhton, Eſq.	William Earle, Merchant,
John Dawſon, Eſq.	Edward Rogers, do.
William Smyth, Merchant.	William Rathbone, do.
Jonas Bold, Banker.	Francis Trench, do.
Thomas Earle, Eſq.	Thomas Hodgſon, do.
Willis Earle, Merchant.	Thomas Hodgſon, jun. do.

" XX. That a ſubſcription be now opened for defraying the expences that may be incurred in the proſecution of this buſineſs, and that Meſſrs. Charles Caldwell and Co. bankers in Liverpool, be appointed treaſurers.

" XXI. That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Mayor for the attention which he has ſhewn to this important buſineſs.

" CLAYTON TARLETON, Chairman."

The preceding reſolutions, with circular letters from the chairman of the committee, were addreſſed to every member of the Houſe of Commons, and to the magiſtrate or ſome other perſon in almoſt every large or trading town in England and Scotland; and they were likewiſe advertiſed in moſt of the London and country newſpapers. The ſubject excited a conſiderable degree of attention; and a correſpondence was entered into by

by the committee appointed in the preceding reſolutions, and committees or other perſons in different trading towns, to the intereſts of which the monopoly of the Eaſt India trade, under an excluſive charter, was thought injurious. In this number were Mancheſter, Birmingham, Exeter, Norwich, Glaſgow, Paiſley, &c.

In a very ſhort time afterwards, however, our ſituation with reſpect to France became more and more intereſting. An uncommon agitation prevailed throughout the kingdom, in conſequence of the apprehenſion of diſaffection at home, and the proſpect of an immediate war. It was feared by many, that any oppoſition to the intentions of adminiſtration with reſpect to the renewal of the Eaſt India Company's charter, might be conſidered as tending to weaken the hands of government, at a time when it was thought particularly deſirable to ſtrengthen them. Very ſoon afterwards the commercial part of the kingdom received a ſevere and moſt unexampled ſhock, in the numerous bankruptcies which took place in every part of the kingdom, and of which Liverpool had its ſhare. And from this complication of cauſes, the minds of the merchants were fully occupied with the individual diſtreſs, either of themſelves or their friends; and no further public exertions were made for the attainment of an object, in which the intereſts both of Britain and the Eaſt Indies appeared to be deeply concerned.

MACCLESFIELD.

Bill of Mortality.

	Chriſt.	Bur.
From March 25, 1712, to ditto 1730,—annual average	148	161
From ditto 1730, to ditto 1740,—annual average	176	133
From ditto 1740, to ditto 1750,—annual average	175	153
From ditto 1750, to ditto 1760,—annual average	203	150
From ditto 1760, to ditto 1770,—annual average	244	166
From ditto 1770, to ditto 1780,—annual average	267	171
1781	292	309
1782	303	213
1783	300	193
1784	288	239
1785	324	246
1786	286	231
1787	313	247
1788	315	256
1789	299	260
1790	316	380
1791	373	252
1792	413	346
1793	418	306
1794	336	263

N: B. Diſſenters included.

School

School. The annual value of all its eſtates at the firſt endowment was £.21 5ſ. The preſent income is £.300 and upwards; and on the falling in of leaſes for lives it will be near £.700. The head maſter is allowed a ſalary of £.100 per annum, and the ſecond maſter of £.60. A new writing ſchool has lately been eſtabliſhed by the governors, for the accommodation of the town and neighbourhood, the maſter of which has a ſalary of £.25 per annum.

Trade. The manufactures of Macclesfield are mohair buttons; worſted twiſt, and ſilk and hair twiſt, made by twiſters alone; alſo ſilk handkerchiefs and hat-bands, and waſte ſilk ſpun for the making of ſtockings; likewiſe ribbons, ferrets, and galloons, and ſilk tape for the covering of buttons. There is likewiſe a conſiderable manufactory of fuſtians, calicoes, checks, and linen cloth in the town and neighbourhood; and there are ſeveral capital dyers and hat-makers in the town. There are thirty mills for the throwing of ſilk for weavers, and making of ſewing ſilk, moſt of which are turned by water; alſo twelve mills for the ſpinning of cotton, ten of which go by water.

STOCKPORT.

Bill of Mortality.

Years.	Marr.	Bapt.	Bur.	Years.	Marr.	Bapt.	Bur.
1750	47	107	206	1785	249	240	350
1755	50	119	163	1786	191	273	271
1760	73	106	163	1787	190	246	496
1765	82	111	166	1788	201	258	374
1770	93	110	209	1789	215	267	339
1775	108	138	193	1790	224	316	369
1780	108	173	250	1791	276	375	517
1781	146	161	324	1792	278	463	715
1782	157	175	193	1793	232	423	492
1783	159	185	224	1794	157	415	600
1784	207	215	410				

Expla-

Explanation of the Plate of Melandra Caſtle.

On the ſides A. and B. were ditches.

C. Road from the Roman ſtation at Brough in Derbyſhire, entered at this gate.

From E. it is ſuppoſed a road went to Buxton.

Not known whether any thing of this ſort led from F. into Yorkſhire.

At G. very near the eaſt angle, the preſent tenant under the duke of Norfolk found, ſeveral years ago, a ſtone about ſixteen inches long, and twelve inches broad, on which is the inſcription already given.

ERRATA.

Page 378, line 19, for 9055, *read* 7055.
Page 393, line 8, — £.300, *read* £.3000.
Page 521, for Mr. Champion returning to England, *read* died in America, leaving a debt unpaid in England of nearly £.100,000.

Correct the Liſt of Patrons of Livings in Cheſhire as follows:

St. Mary, Cheſter,		—	Mr. Hill.
Pulford,	—	—	Repreſentative of Mr. Townſend, rector of Cheſter.
Tarporley,	—	—	Alſo dean and chapter of Cheſter, and Mr. Egerton of Oulton.
Alderley,	—	—	Sir J. Stanley.
Preſtbury,	—	—	Mrs. Legh.
Brereton,	—	—	Mr. Bracebridge.
Davenham,	—	—	E. Tomkinſon, Eſq.
Heſwall,	—	—	And —— Mainwaring, Eſq.

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